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# Module 4

## Inspections of Non-Proprietary BMPs




# Virginia Stormwater BMP Clearinghouse - [vwrrc.vt.edu/swc](http://vwrrc.vt.edu/swc)

## Virginia Stormwater BMP Clearinghouse

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### BMP CLEARINGHOUSE DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE

The Virginia Stormwater Management BMP Clearinghouse is a web site established to serve several key purposes:

- ▶ Disseminate the design standards and specifications of all stormwater best management practices (BMPs) approved for use in Virginia to control the quality and/or quantity of stormwater runoff. This information covers the following categories of stormwater BMPs:
  - Traditional practices, such as detention or wet ponds;
  - Low impact development (LID) practices, such as bioretention and roof drain disconnection;



# Specs include construction sequence

## SECTION 8: CONSTRUCTION

### 8.1. Construction Sequence for Conserved Open Space Areas

The Conserved Open Space must be fully protected during the construction stage of development and kept outside the limits of disturbance on the Erosion and Sediment (E&S) Control Plan.

- No clearing, grading or heavy equipment access is allowed except temporary disturbances associated with incidental utility construction, restoration operations or management of nuisance vegetation.
- The perimeter of the Conserved Open Space shall be protected by super silt fence, chain link fence, orange safety fence, or other measures to prevent sediment discharge.
- The limits of disturbance should be clearly shown on all construction drawings and identified and protected in the field by acceptable signage, silt fence, snow fence or other protective barrier.



# Specs include maintenance inspection points

## 9.2. Maintenance Inspections

Annual inspections are used to trigger maintenance operations such as sediment removal, spot re-vegetation and level spreader repair. Ideally, inspections should be conducted in the non-growing season when it is easier to see the flow path. Example maintenance inspection checklists for Sheet Flow to a Filter Strip or Conserved Open Space areas can be accessed in Appendix C of Chapter 9 of the Virginia Stormwater Management Handbook or at the Center for Watershed Protection's website at:

[http://www.cwp.org/Resource\\_Library/Controlling\\_Runoff\\_and\\_Discharges/sm.htm](http://www.cwp.org/Resource_Library/Controlling_Runoff_and_Discharges/sm.htm)  
(scroll to Tool6: Plan Review, BMP Construction, and Maintenance Checklists)

Inspectors should check to ensure that:

- Flows through the Filter Strip do not short-circuit the overflow control section;
- Debris and sediment does not build up at the top of the Filter Strip;
- Foot or vehicular traffic does not compromise the gravel diaphragm;
- Scour and erosion do not occur within the Filter Strip;
- Sediments are cleaned out of Level Spreader forebays and flow splitters; and
- Vegetative density exceeds a 90% cover in the boundary zone or grass filter.





# Sample Construction Inspection Checklists (DEQ Training Page)

## Sample Construction Inspection Checklist: Permeable Pavement

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The following checklist provides a basic outline of the anticipated items for the construction inspection of permeable pavement for use as stormwater BMPs. This checklist does not necessarily differentiate between the types of pavement materials and the different construction requirements. The designer and the VSMP Authority personnel should consult with the manufacturer of the material to ensure that proper construction oversight and inspections are provided. Also, users of this information may wish to incorporate these items into a VSMP Authority Construction Checklist format consistent with the format used for erosion and sediment control and BMP construction inspections.

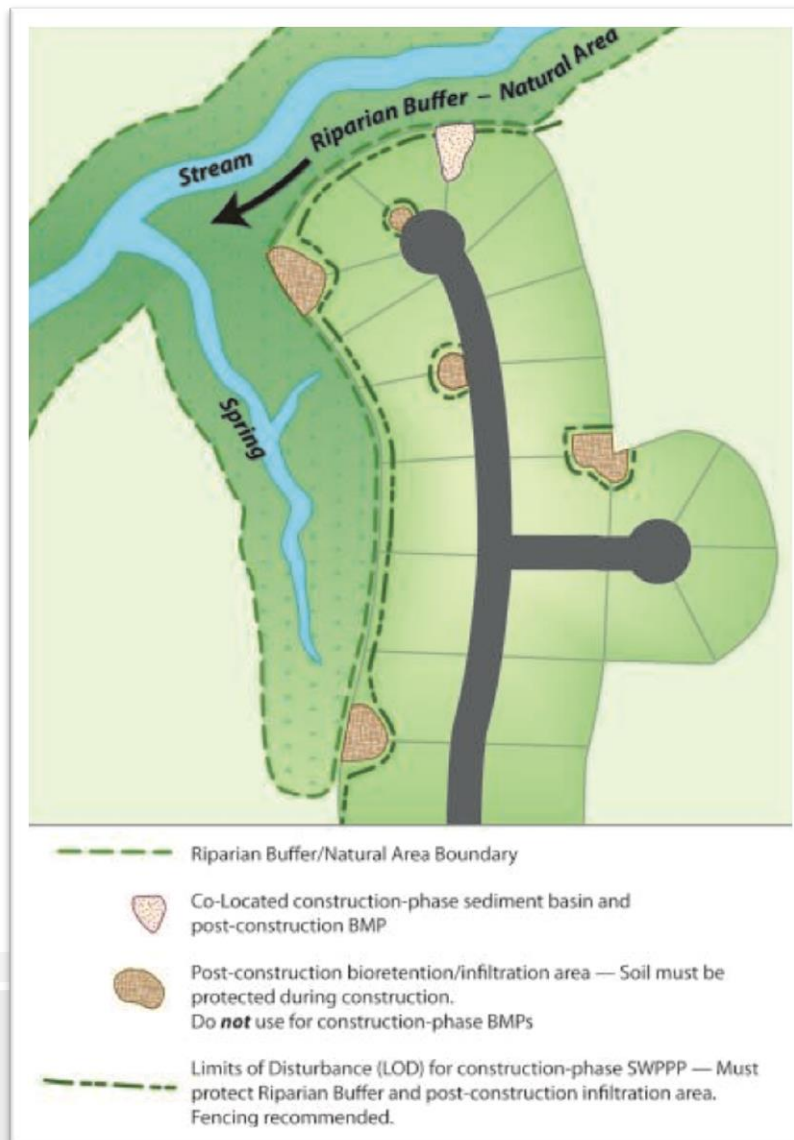
- ☐ **Pre-construction meeting**
  - ☐ Walk through site with builder/contractor/subcontractor to review the SWPPP (erosion and sediment control plan, the stormwater management plan, and the Pollution Prevention plan)
  - ☐ Determine when permeable pavement is built in project construction sequence; before or after building construction and determine measures for protection and surface cleaning.
  - ☐ Identify the tentative schedule for construction and verify the requirements and schedule for interim inspections and sign-off.



## 5 Common Conversion & Post-Construction Inspection Issues

1. Co-Located practices?
2. Ready to install?
3. Materials
4. Field inspections: Inspector vs. Engineer of Record
5. Ready for permit termination?

# 1. Co-Located Practices?



# 1. Co-Located Practices?



Co-Located





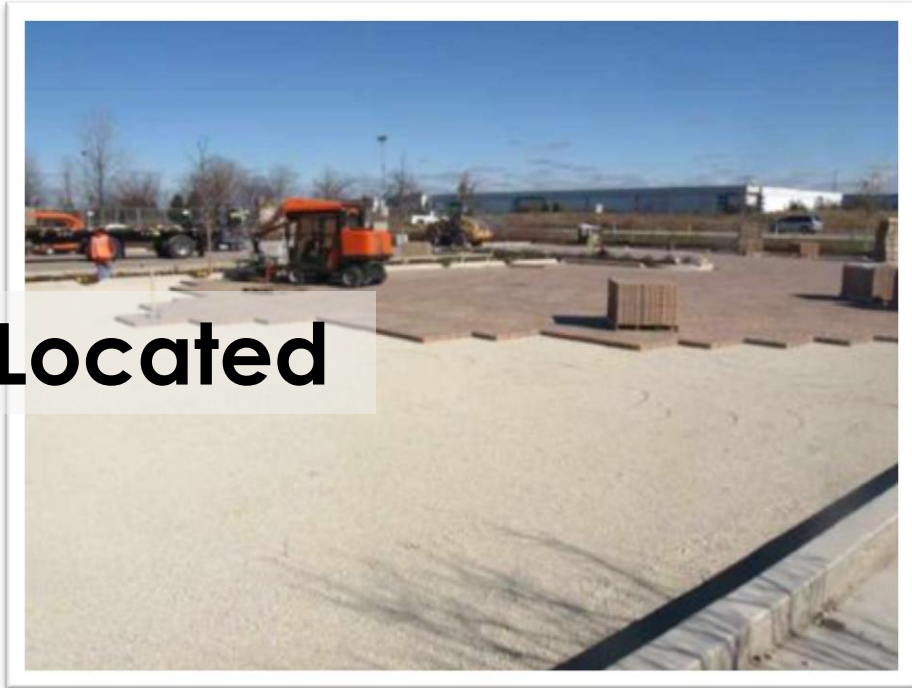
# 1. Co-Located Practices?



# 1. Co-Located Practices?



**Infiltration**



**Permeable pavement**



## 2. Ready to Install?



**Permeable pavement**



**Grass channel**

## 2. Ready to Insall?



**Stabilize drainage area  
Block inlets and/or divert water if necessary**



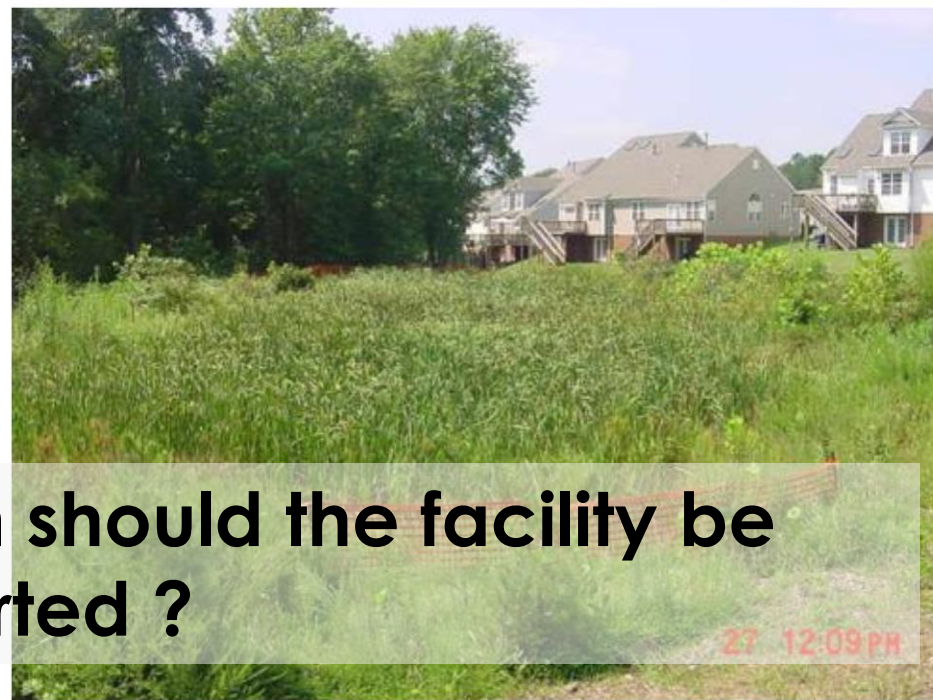
## 2. Ready to Install?

**Secondary erosion and sediment control measures may be needed**



12 12:02PM

## 2. Ready to Install?





### 3. Materials



**Soil**



**Geotextile vs.  
Filter Fabric**



**Vegetation**



**Stone**

## 4. Field Modifications: Inspector vs. Engineer of Record






## 5. Ready for Permit Termination?

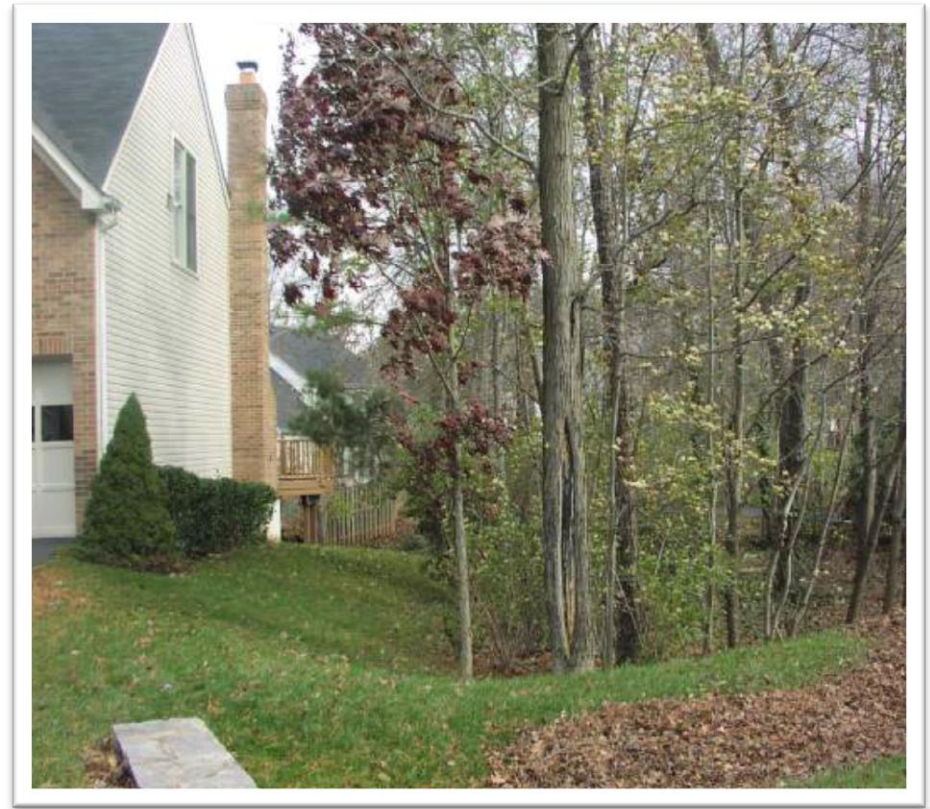




# Non-proprietary BMPs



# Design Specification No. 1 Rooftop (Impervious Surface) Disconnection



## Two disconnection types allowed:

1. Simple
2. Alternative





## Type 1. Simple Disconnection

Rooftops and/or on-lot impervious surfaces are directed to pervious areas



# Overview: Simple Disconnection

- Runoff volume reductions achieved by managing runoff as sheet flow close to its source and infiltrating into pervious areas



## Key Considerations

- Advisable for lots  $> 6,000 \text{ ft}^2$
- Filter corridors from downspout
- Level spreader required for concentrated inflow





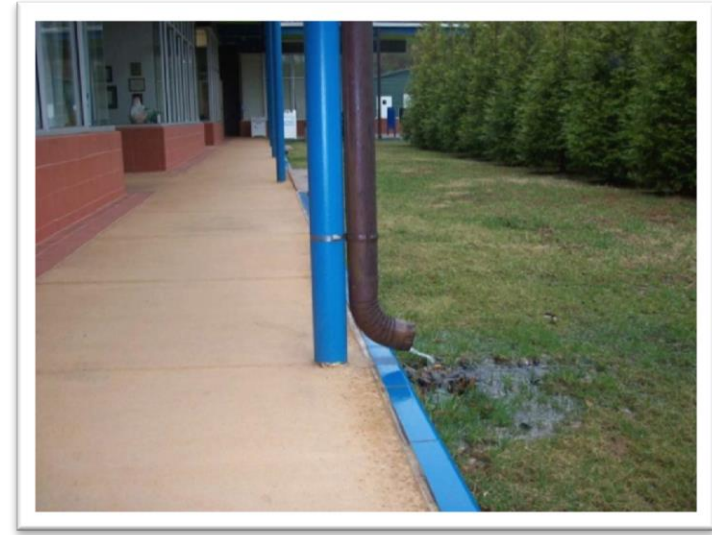
## Simple disconnection design criteria

Design Factor	Simple Disconnection
Maximum impervious (Rooftop) Area Treated	1,000 sq. ft. per disconnection
Longest flow path (roof/gutter)	75 feet
Disconnection Length	Equal to longest flow path (no less than 40 feet)
Disconnection slope	< 2% or < 5% with turf reinforcement
Distance from buildings or foundations	Extend downspouts 5 ft. (15 ft. in karst areas) away from building <i>if grade is less than 1%</i> .
Type of Pretreatment	External (leaf screens, etc)

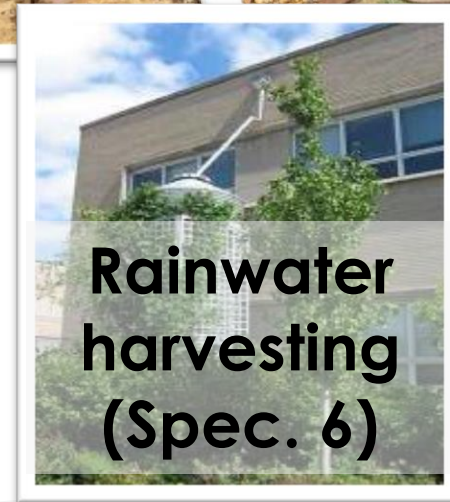
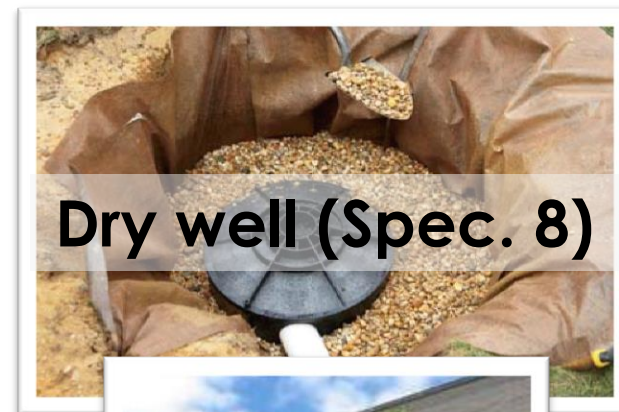
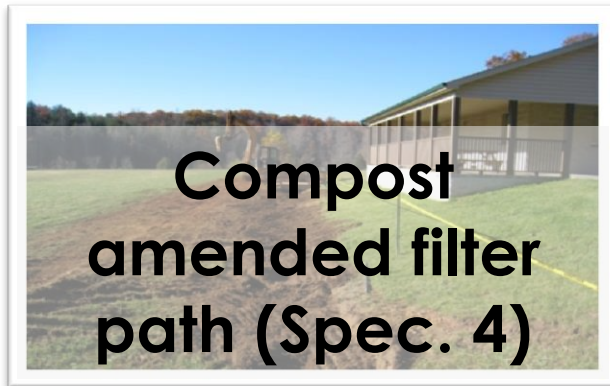
# Key Considerations

## ➤ Table 1.2

- Disconnection length
- Disconnection slope
- Distance from building or foundations



## Type 2. Alternative Disconnection







# Inspections: **CONSTRUCTION**

- Before installation:
  - Drainage area stabilized?
  - Downspouts and runoff diverted away?
  - Disconnection paths correctly positioned based on actual topography and downspout locations?



# Inspections: **CONSTRUCTION**

- Check during installation:
  - Length, width, slope, elevations of disconnection path - **Must match plan**
  - Depth of soil if amendments used - **Must match plan**



# Inspections: **CONSTRUCTION**

- Check during installation:
  - Compaction
  - Erosion control matting or straw is in place
  - Level spreader properly installed - **Must match plan**



## Inspections: **CONSTRUCTION**

- After installation:
  - Ensure vegetation is stable before downspouts diverted back to disconnection path





## Inspections: **POST-CONSTRUCTION**

- Check that downspouts and impervious areas still flow to disconnection pathway
- Look for new buildings, sidewalks, driveways, etc. that impact the disconnection pathway
- Look for signs of short-circuiting, channelization, or erosion
- Check for vegetation cover

# Is It Still Disconnected?





# By-Passing, Erosion, Channelization?






# Design specification No. 2

## Sheet Flow to a Vegetated Filter Strip or Conserved Open Space





## Two Types of Filter Strips

- 1) Conserved open space
- 2) Designed vegetated filter strips



## Remember...

- Stormwater **must** enter as sheet flow
  - Inflow from pipe or channel requires an engineered level spreader



## Conserved Open Space

- Outside limits of disturbance
- Marked on all construction drawings
- Protected by signage and erosion controls





## Vegetated Filter Strips

- Maximum slope steepness is 8% to maintain sheet flow through practice



## Vegetated Filter Strip

- Planting and Vegetation Management
  - 90% cover after second growing season
  - Seed, not sod
  - Compost soil amendments may be added



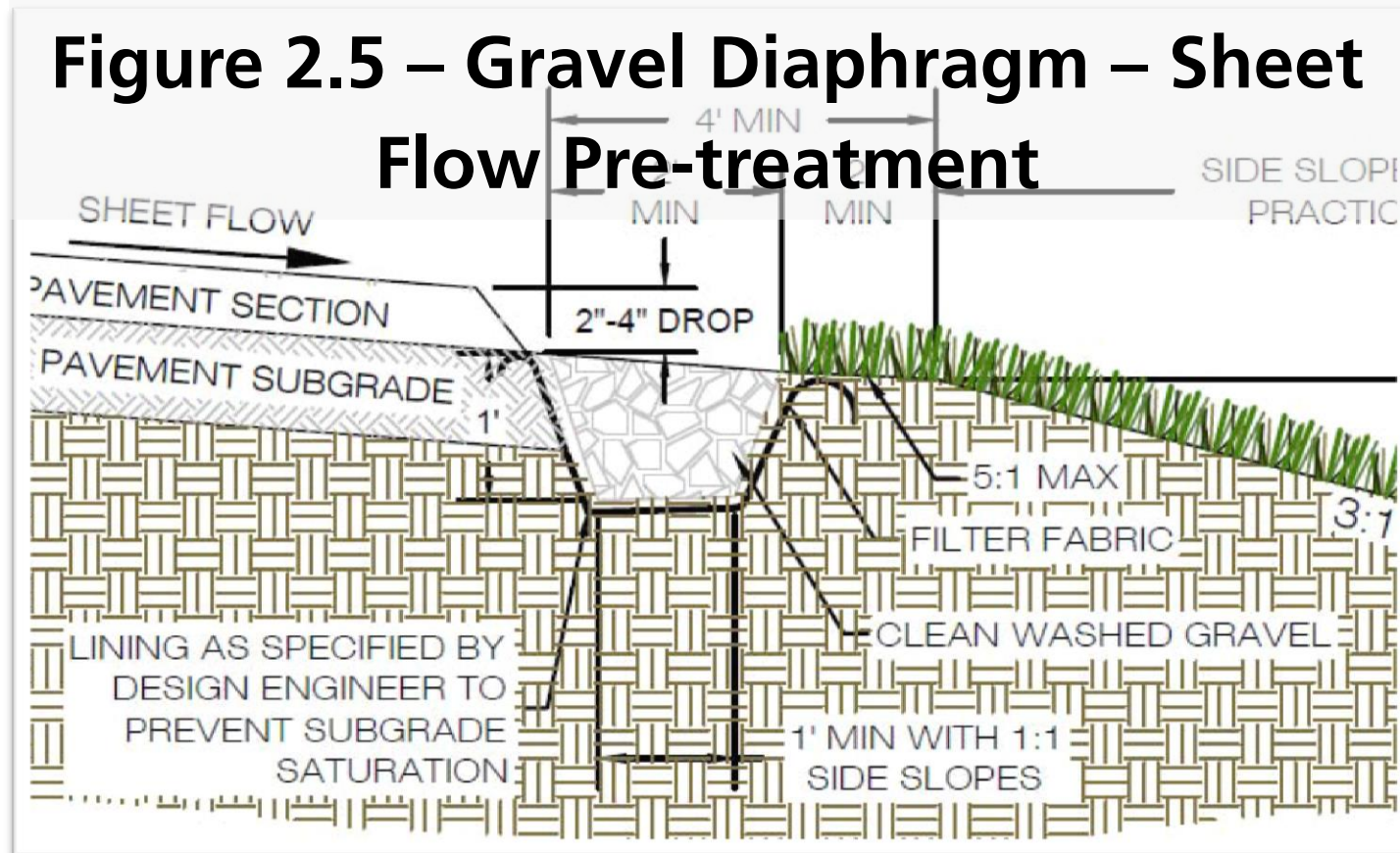
# Vegetated Filter Strips

- Gravel Diaphragms:
  - Pea gravel diaphragm at top of slope required for **both** Conserved Open Space and vegetated filter strips that receive sheet flow

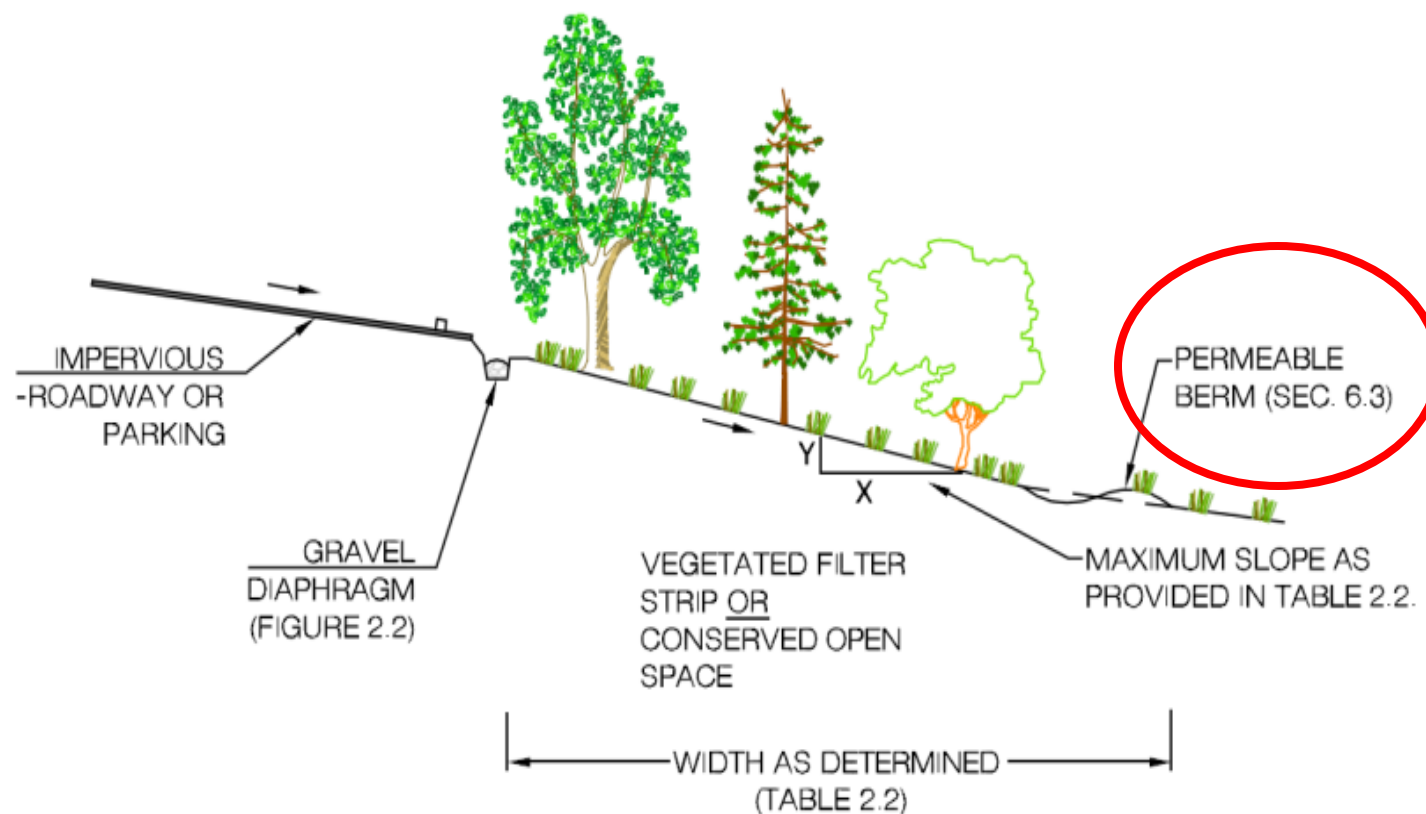


# Vegetated Filter Strip

**Figure 2.5 – Gravel Diaphragm – Sheet Flow Pre-treatment**



# Vegetated Filter Strip



- TYPICAL CONFIGURATION OF  
SHEET FLOW TO VEGETATED  
FILTER STRIP OR CONSERVED  
OPEN SPACE.



# Vegetated Filter Strip

- Engineered Level Spreaders
  - Concrete, metal, non-erodible material
  - Well anchored footer
  - Ends of level spreader section should be tied back into slope to avoid scouring around ends

## Inspection: **CONSTRUCTION**

- ✓ Water diverted around filter strip area **prior to** installation?





## Inspection: **CONSTRUCTION**

- ✓ Topsoil and/or compost even across filter strip?



# Inspection: CONSTRUCTION

- ✓ Dimensions match approved plan?



## Inspection: CONSTRUCTION

- ✓ Runoff diverted to filter only after vegetation is well established?



## Inspection: CONSTRUCTION

- ✓ Filter strip ok after first big storm?



Photo: R. Winston; BAE Stormwater Engineering Group, NCSU






## Inspection: **POST**- CONSTRUCTION

- ✓ Short-circuiting?
- ✓ Debris and/or sediment build-up?
- ✓ Scour or erosion?
- ✓ Sediment removed?
- ✓ Vegetated cover of 90%?

## Inspection: **POST**- CONSTRUCTION

- ✓ Level spreader and/or gravel diaphragm:
  - Level?
  - Short-circuiting?
  - Erosion?
  - Standing water?
  - Sediment or debris?





# Design Specification

## No. 3

### Grass Channels



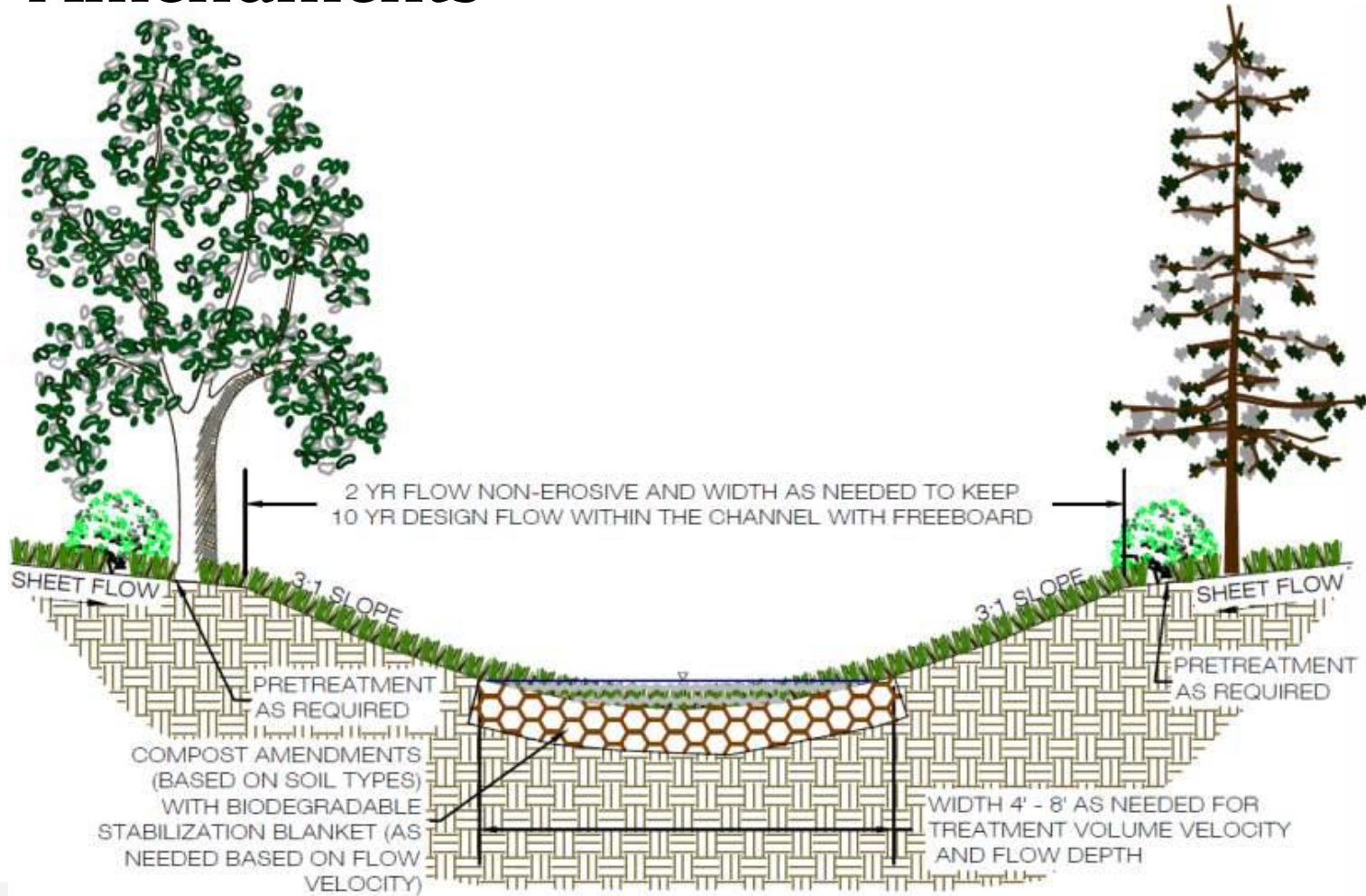


## Grass Channel Design Guidance

- Bottom width of channel should be between 4 to 8 feet wide
- Channel side-slopes should be 3:1 or flatter
- Maximum total contributing drainage area to any individual grass channel is 5 acres

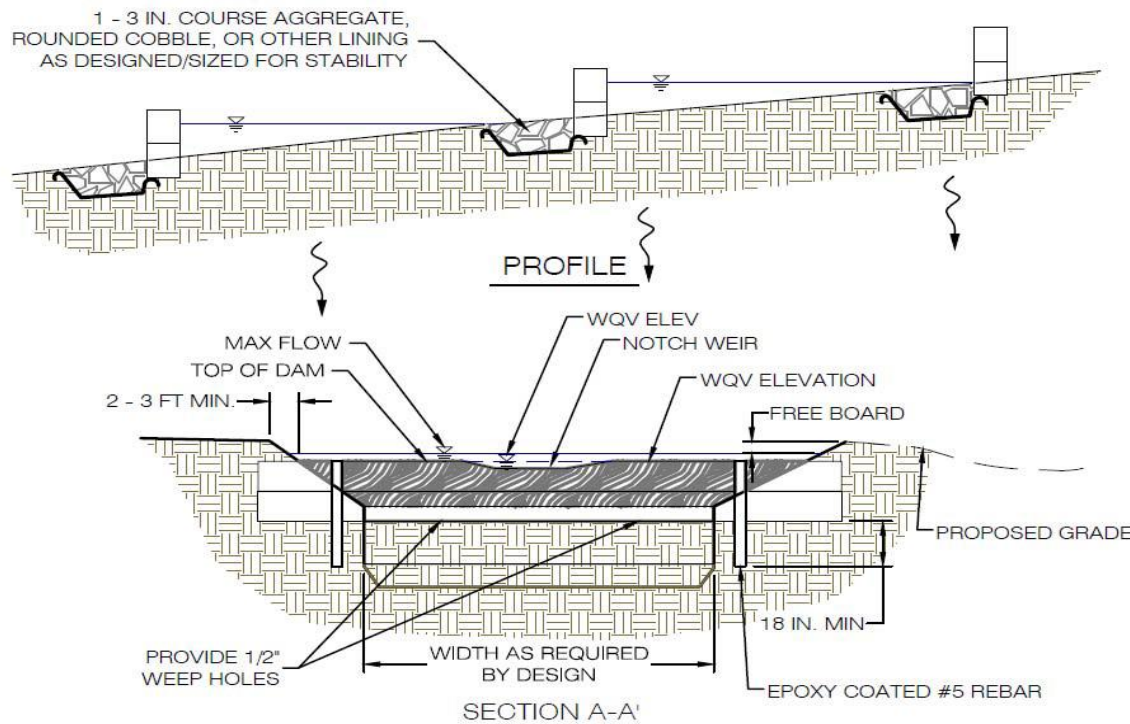
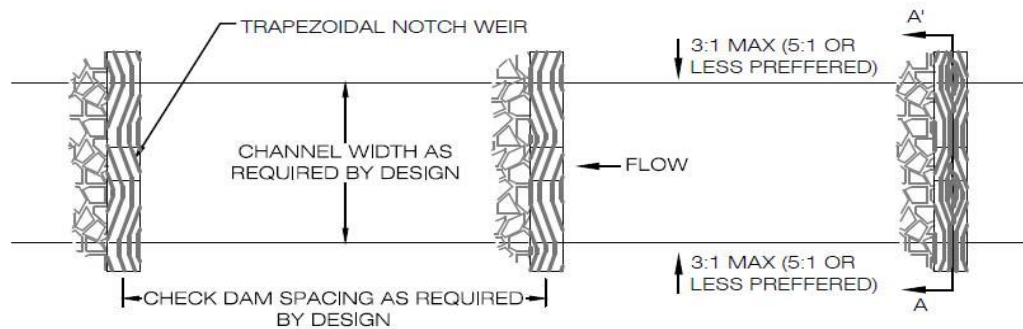


# Grass Channel with Compost Amendments



## Grass channel with check dams

Must match the plan!



NOTE: CHECK DAM CONSTRUCTED OF RAILROAD TIES, PRESSURE TREATED LOGS OR TIMBERS, OR CONCRETE.



## Inspection: **CONSTRUCTION**

- ✓ Drainage area stable OR water diverted around grass channel area **prior to** installation?
- ✓ Length, width, slope, and elevations of grass channel correct according to plan?
- ✓ Outfall protection/energy dissipation at concentrated inflows stable?

## Inspection: **CONSTRUCTION**

- ✓ Soil amendments (if called for in plan) added at correct depth and distributed evenly across channel bottom?





## Inspection: **CONSTRUCTION**

- ✓ Turf coverage achieved and/or proper erosion control fabric installed **following** construction?



## Inspection: **POST-CONSTRUCTION**

- ✓ Encroachments?
- ✓ Debris or sediment build-up?



## Inspection: **POST-CONSTRUCTION**

- ✓ Turf grass cover over at least 90% of the grass channel area?
- ✓ Erosion on side slopes or bottom?



## Inspection: **POST-CONSTRUCTION**

- ✓ Flow short-circuiting, channelizing, or eroding?
- ✓ Under-cutting, erosion, or blockages at check dams?







# Design Specification

## No. 4

### Soil Compost Amendment



# Soil Compost Amendments

- Compacted disturbed urban soils: challenge and opportunity







# Standard Landscape Development Practices



# Applications

- Used to enhance runoff reduction practices



# Methods of Incorporation

- Deep Ripping/Subsoiler
- Spread & incorporate compost
- Grass/plant establishment
- NOTE: Some applications with deep incorporation of compost may require excavation and replacing soil/compost in lifts.





Photo Credit: Jeremy Balousek, P.E., Dane County, WI Land and Water Resources Department



# Perpendicular to Flow Direction



*Photo Credit: Jeremy Balousek, P.E., Dane County, WI Land and Water Resources Department*

## Smaller Areas

- Rototiller, tiller
- Hand spreading compost
- Seed & straw



Photo Credit: Richard McLaughlin, Ph.D., North Carolina State University



# Establish Vegetation



# Use Simple E&S Measures For Areas > 2,500 sf





# Inspection: CONSTRUCTION

- Drainage Area Stabilized?
- Correct mix?
- Simple E&S measures for larger areas?
- Compost incorporated using right equipment to right depth?



Photo Credit: Richard McLaughlin, Ph.D.,  
North Carolina State University

## Inspection: CONSTRUCTION

- Dig test pit to verify depth of compost at one location per 10,000 ft<sup>2</sup>





## Inspection: **POST-CONSTRUCTION**

- Vegetative growth
- Erosion or ponding?

# Design Specification

## No. 5

### Vegetated Roof



# Green Roof Basics



*Image courtesy of Timmons Group*

- Extensive
- Intensive



# Green Roof Design Elements:



Created or  
Manufactured System



*Images courtesy of Timmons Group*

## Inspection: **CONSTRUCTION**

- Ensure proper coordination is taking place



## Inspection: **POST-CONSTRUCTION**

- Conduct during growing season
- Communication & coordination with property owner or manager



## Inspection: **POST-CONSTRUCTION**

- First 12-18 months: Plant establishment
- Long-Term: Bare spots, control of invasives and volunteer plants





# Design Specification

## No. 6

### Rainwater Harvesting







## Rainwater Harvesting

- Rainwater harvesting systems intercept, divert, store and release rainfall for future non-potable uses:
  - Flushing of toilets and urinals
  - Landscape irrigation
  - Exterior washing
  - Fire suppression (sprinkler) systems



# Rainwater Harvesting

Secondary practices can include:

- **Rooftop Disconnection**
  - (Design Specification No. 1)
- **Grass Channel**
  - (Design Specification No. 3)
- **Micro-Bioretention or rain garden**
  - (Design Specification No. 9)



## Inspection: CONSTRUCTION

- ✓ This is mostly in the hands of the architect, project engineers, building contractor, and other vendors.
- ✓ Inspector should ensure that proper coordination is taking place.

## Inspection: CONSTRUCTION

- ✓ Construction runoff should not enter tank during installation
- ✓ Rooftop area size & materials match plan



# Inspection: CONSTRUCTION

- ✓ Tank foundation properly installed



*Source: Clay Dills, Dills Architects*



## Inspection: CONSTRUCTION

- ✓ Diversion system (e.g., downspouts and pipes) is properly sized and installed to deliver roof runoff to tank.



(Source: Rainwater Management Solutions)

## Inspection: CONSTRUCTION

- ✓ Pre-treatment properly installed
- ✓ Mosquito screens installed on all openings (as needed).



*Source: Rainwater Management Solutions*



## Inspection: CONSTRUCTION

- ✓ Overflow device installed at proper elevation and with stable erosion control at outfall

## Inspection: **CONSTRUCTION**

- ✓ Secondary runoff reduction practice(s) properly installed.



## Inspection: POST-CONSTRUCTION

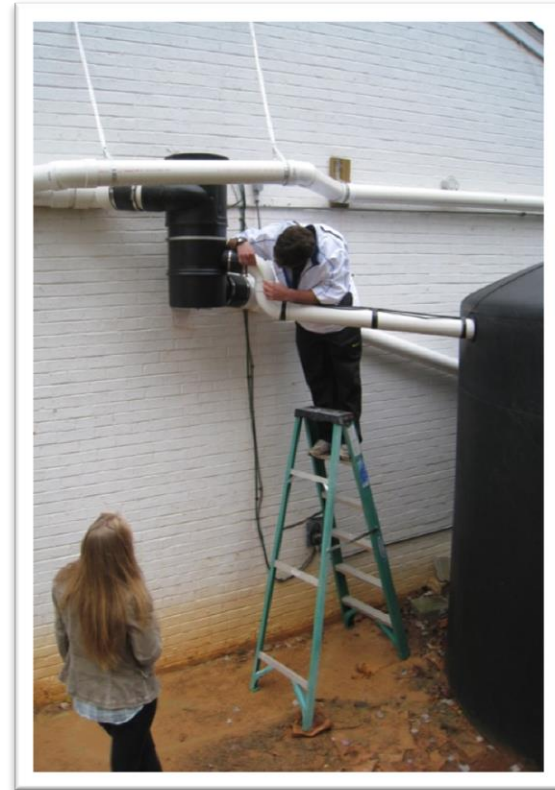
- System is still present and actively used as described on plan?
- Roof runoff still entering treatment system and tank?
- Maintenance being done?





## Inspection: POST-CONSTRUCTION

- Check for any blockages in downspouts, diverters, and filters to ensure that runoff is not bypassing system





## Inspection: POST-CONSTRUCTION

- Inspect integrity of tank, pipes, covers, pumps, etc. for structural and safety problems
- Check integrity of backflow preventer (if present)

## Inspection: POST-CONSTRUCTION

- Ensure that outlets are not closed or clogged
- Inspect condition of overflow path for erosion and secondary runoff reduction practices (if present)



# DESIGN SPECIFICATION

## No. 7 Permeable Pavement





# Permeable Pavement



## Pervious Concrete (PC)

# Permeable Pavement



## Porous Asphalt (PA)

# Permeable Pavement



## Permeable Interlocking Concrete Pavers (PICP)

# Permeable Pavement



## Concrete Grid Pavers





# Permeable Pavement

- Micro scale
  - 250 – 1,000 ft.<sup>2</sup>
- Small scale
  - 1,000 – 10,000 ft.<sup>2</sup>
- Large scale
  - >10,000 ft.<sup>2</sup>

# Inspection: CONSTRUCTION

1. Protect area during construction
2. Stabilize drainage area
3. Excavation
4. Reservoir & bedding layers
5. Pavement surface

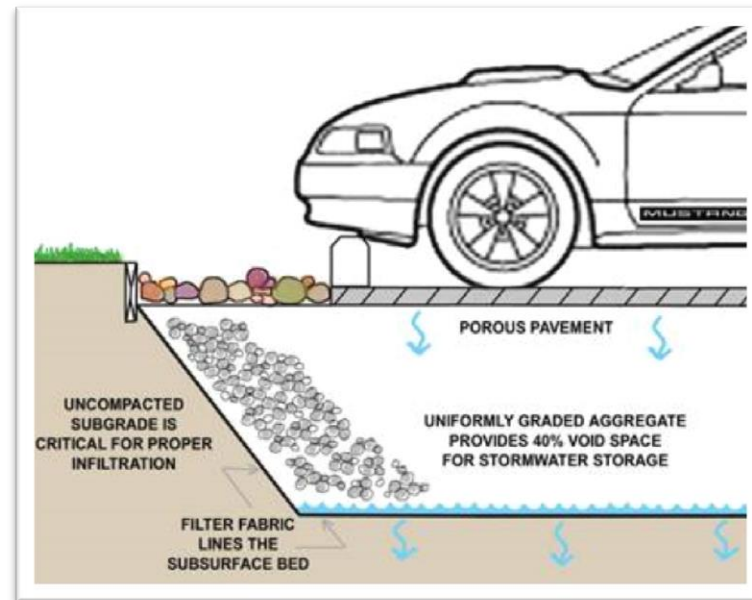


# 1. Protect Area from Heavy Equipment & Construction Traffic

- Keep Pavement Area Outside of Limits of Disturbance



Photo Credit: Rob Roseen,  
Geosyntec, Inc.



## 2: Stabilize Drainage Area - Divert Water if Necessary – SEDIMENT IS THE ENEMY!



Installed too early during construction; fouled with construction sediment



Clean work area, with curb to divert drainage around work site

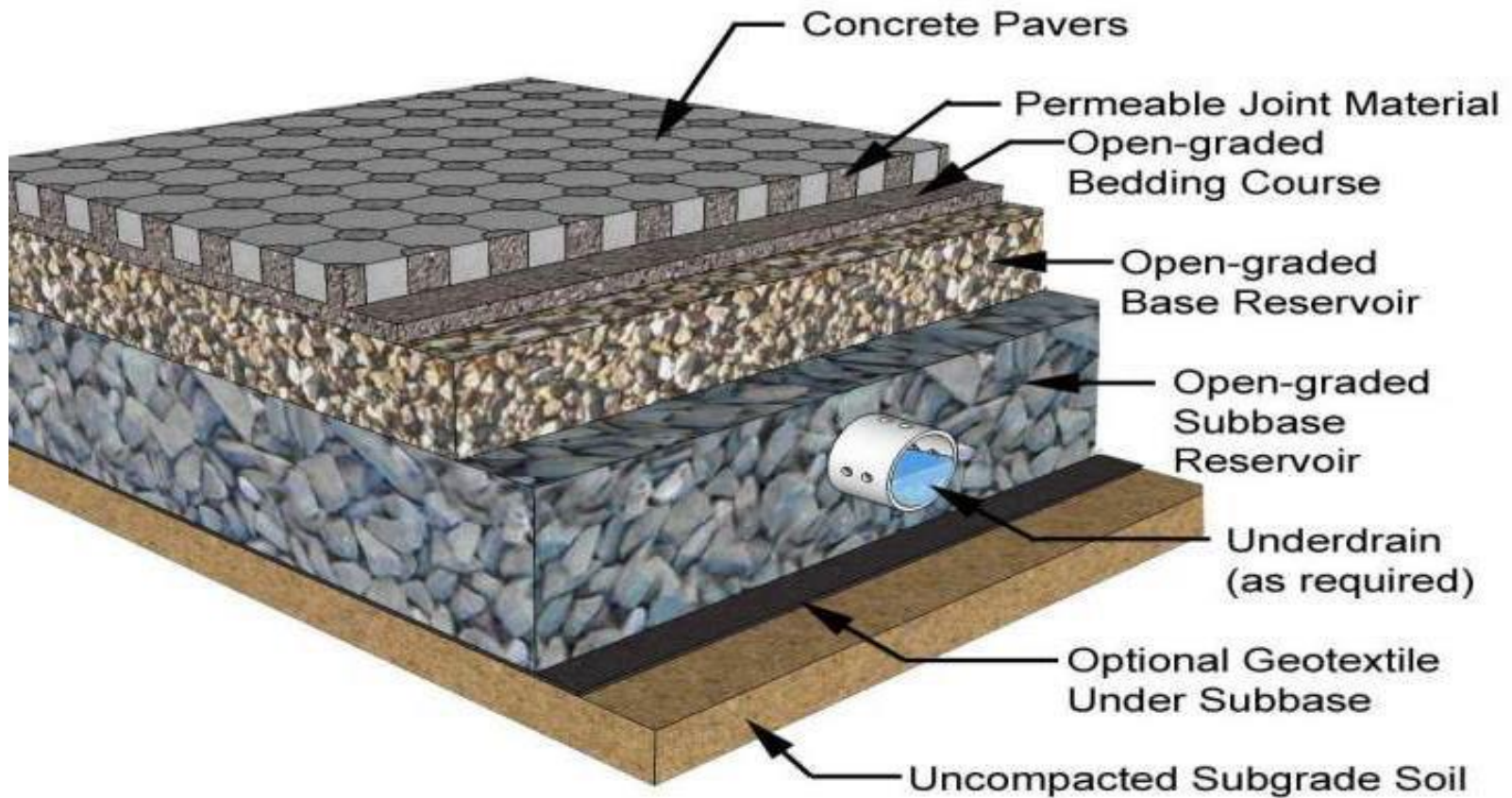


### 3: Excavation and Stone Reservoir Installation



In most cases, bottom of excavation should be FLAT.  
On slopes, individual cells should be flat.

## 4: Reservoir & Bedding Layer



- Details vary – check on approved plan

## 5: Placement of Pavement Surface



## Inspection: **POST-CONSTRUCTION**

### Common issues:

- Erosion
- Material storage
- Sediment from upgradient areas
- Clogging of pavement surface
- Structural damage





# Maintenance



Preventative



Restorative



Photo Credit:  
Tim Van  
Seters,  
Toronto and  
Region  
Conservation

# Pavement Surface No-Nos



Structural Damage



Loose Gravel on  
Pavement Surface



# Pavement Surface: Some Accumulation of Fines Expected, But. . .





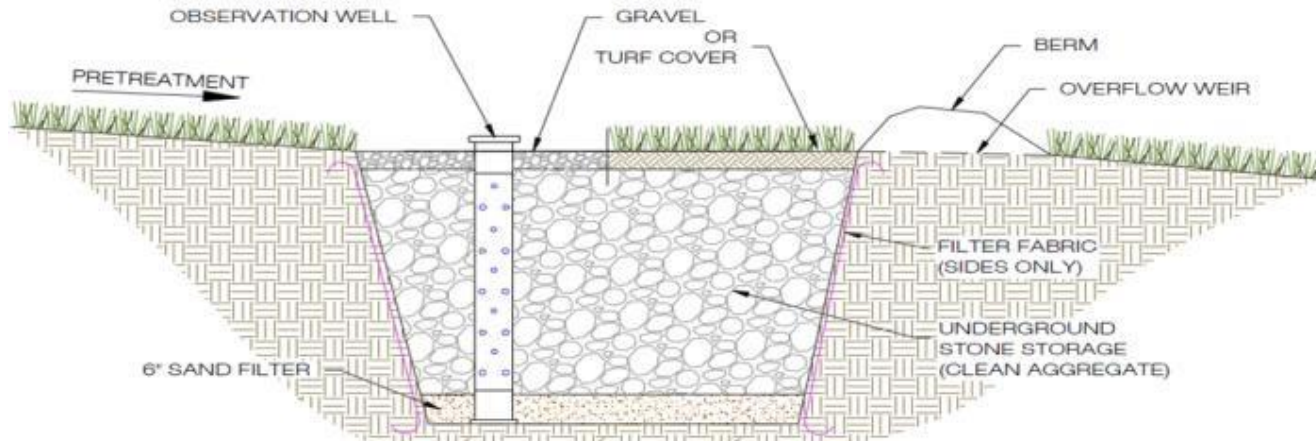
# DESIGN SPECIFICATION

## No. 8 Infiltration Practices

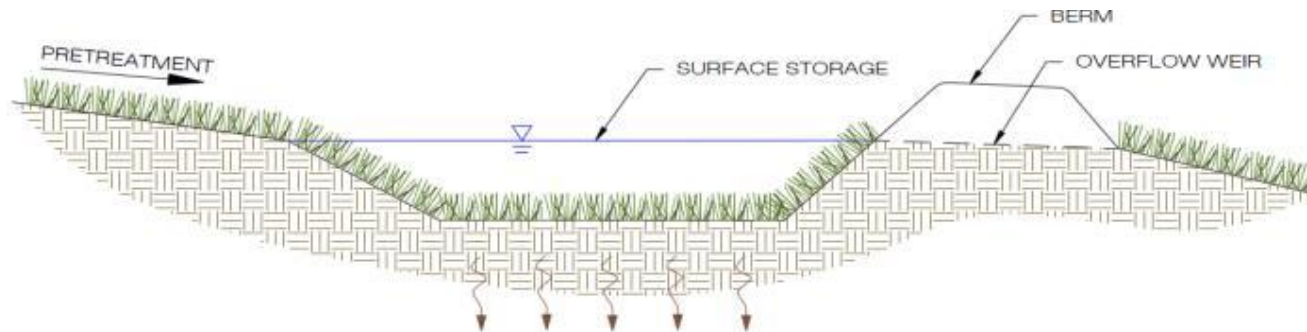




# Types of Infiltration Practices

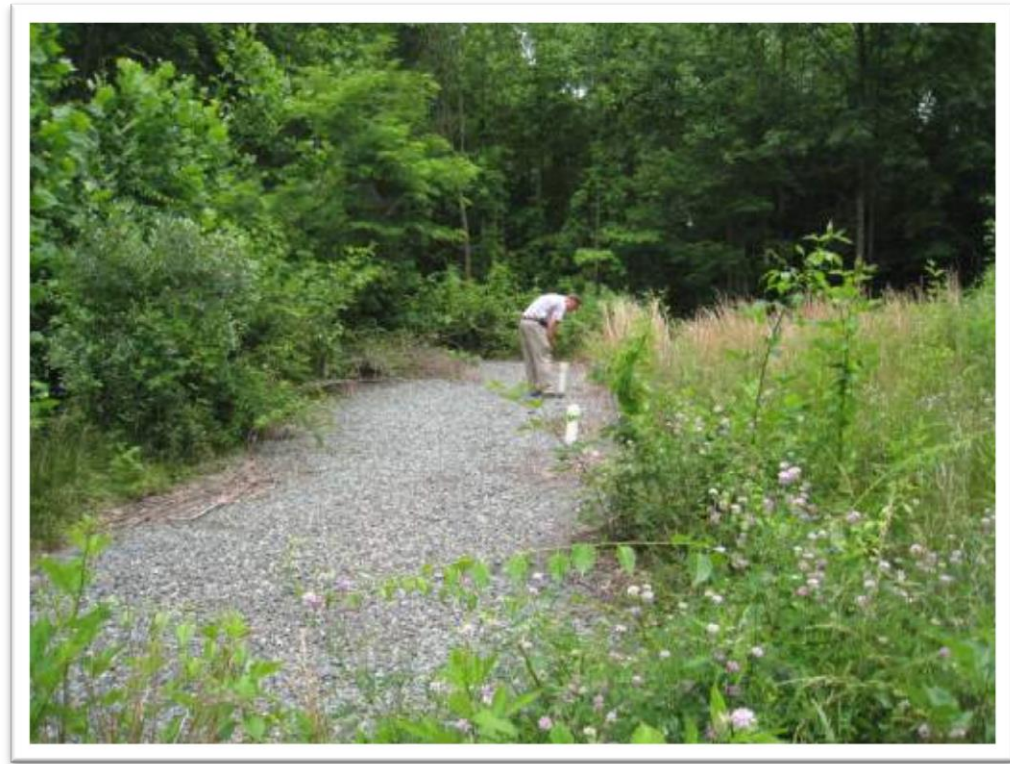
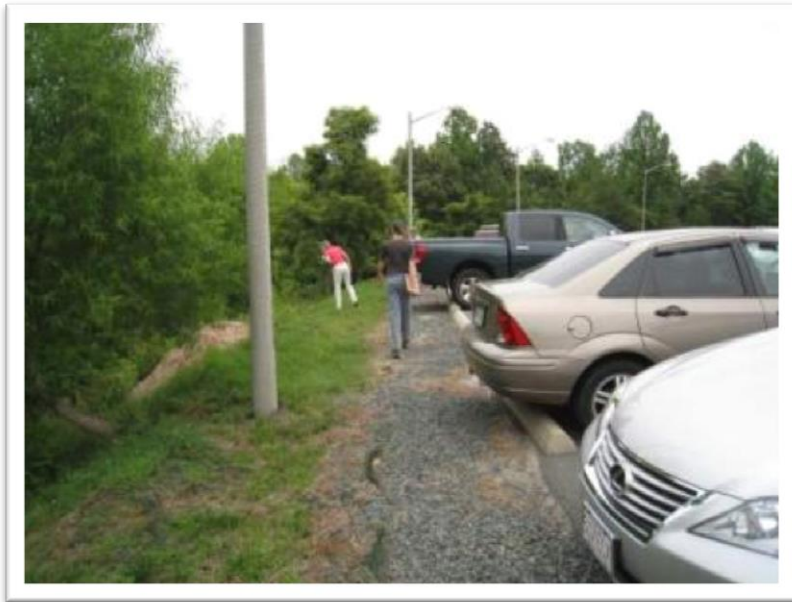


## Infiltration Trench



## Infiltration Basin

# Infiltration Trench



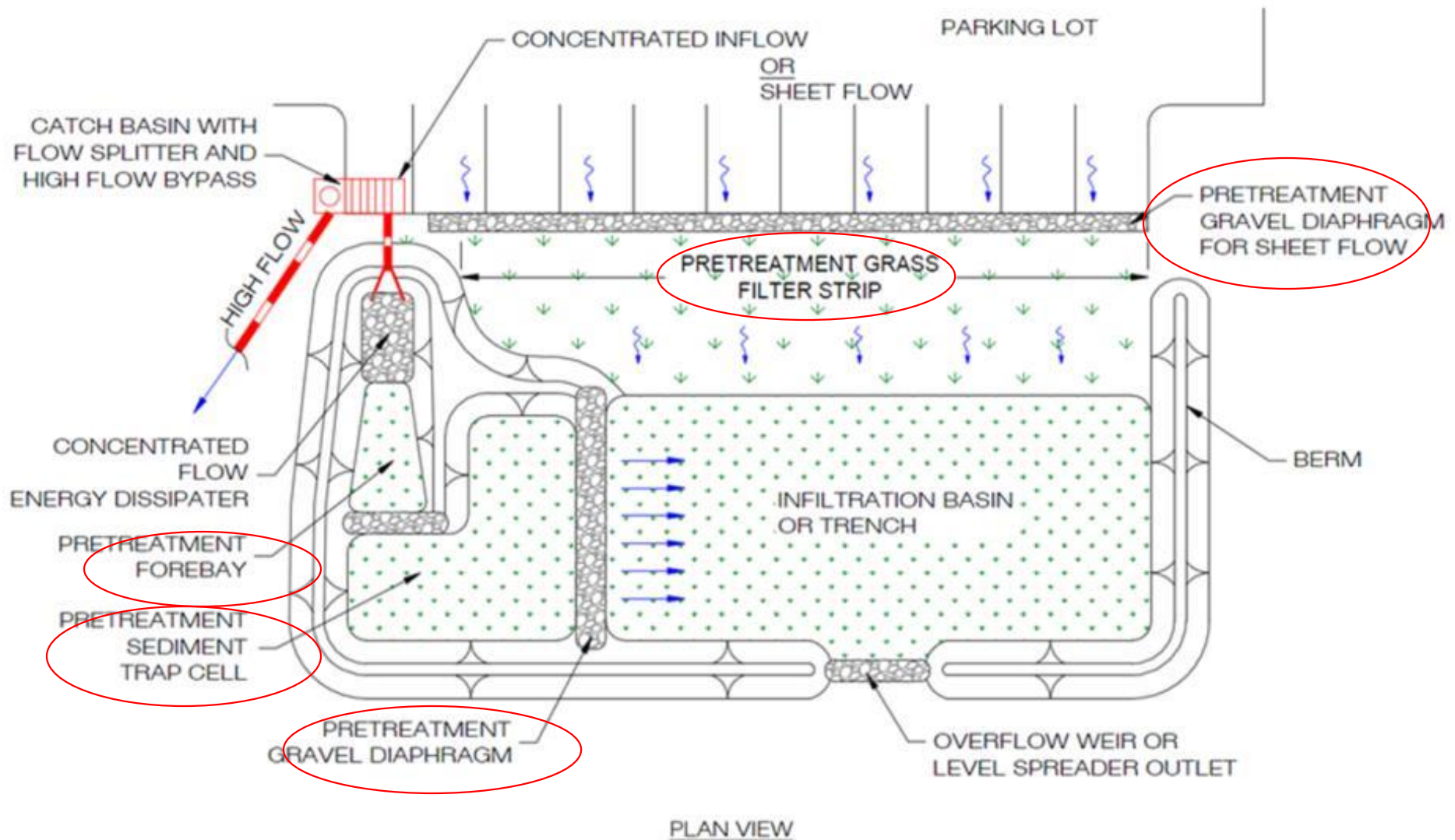
# Infiltration Basin



Source: epa.gov



# Multiple Types of Pre-Treatment





# Examples of Pre-Treatment

- Grass filter strips (pictured);
- Gravel diaphragm
- Sediment forebays



# Inspection: CONSTRUCTION

- Protect area during construction; follow proper sequence
- Soil testing
- Ready to install -E&S measures
- Excavation, filter & reservoir layers
- Pre-treatment
- Open drainage area connection



# Avoid Compaction, Disturbance During Construction



- Construction traffic
- Material storage, stockpiles
- Other sources of sediment
- Outside limits of disturbance if possible

# Soil Investigation: Verify It's Done



*Photo credit: Tim Carter; [www.askthebuilder.com](http://www.askthebuilder.com)*



# Drainage Area Stabilized



# Equipment Operating From Sides





## Material Installation

- Filter fabric – on sides only
- Bottom of trench should be scarified
- Observation well
- Stone – installed in 1-foot lift
- Turf cover



## Inspection: **POST-Construction**

- Inlets – Water still getting in?
- Pre-Treatment – Filled with sediment, blocked?
- Infiltration Bed – Standing water, debris, sediment?
- Drainage Area – Controllable sources of sediment and debris?



## Check Inlets & Pre-Treatment



- Any by-passing or Clogging?
- Need to be cleaned out?

# Check For Accumulation of Fines and Sediment



- Weeds and other vegetation are indicators

## Subsurface Clogging?

Water  
level

- $\frac{1}{2}$  inch or more standing water in observation well 3 days after storm?





Hopefully, the infiltration practice won't look like these. . .



Standing water or evidence of standing water  
(Sparse vegetation)



But will look more like these





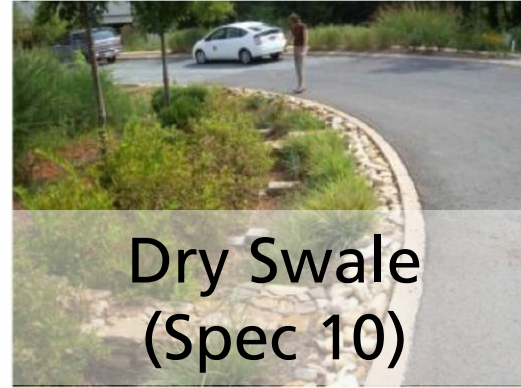
# DESIGN SPECIFICATION

## No. 9 Bioretention & No. 10 Dry Swale





# Applications/Types



# Micro Scale Applications



- Drainage Area = 250 to 2,500 square feet  
(Mostly impervious)



# Typical Scale Applications



# Basin Scale: Bioretention Basins



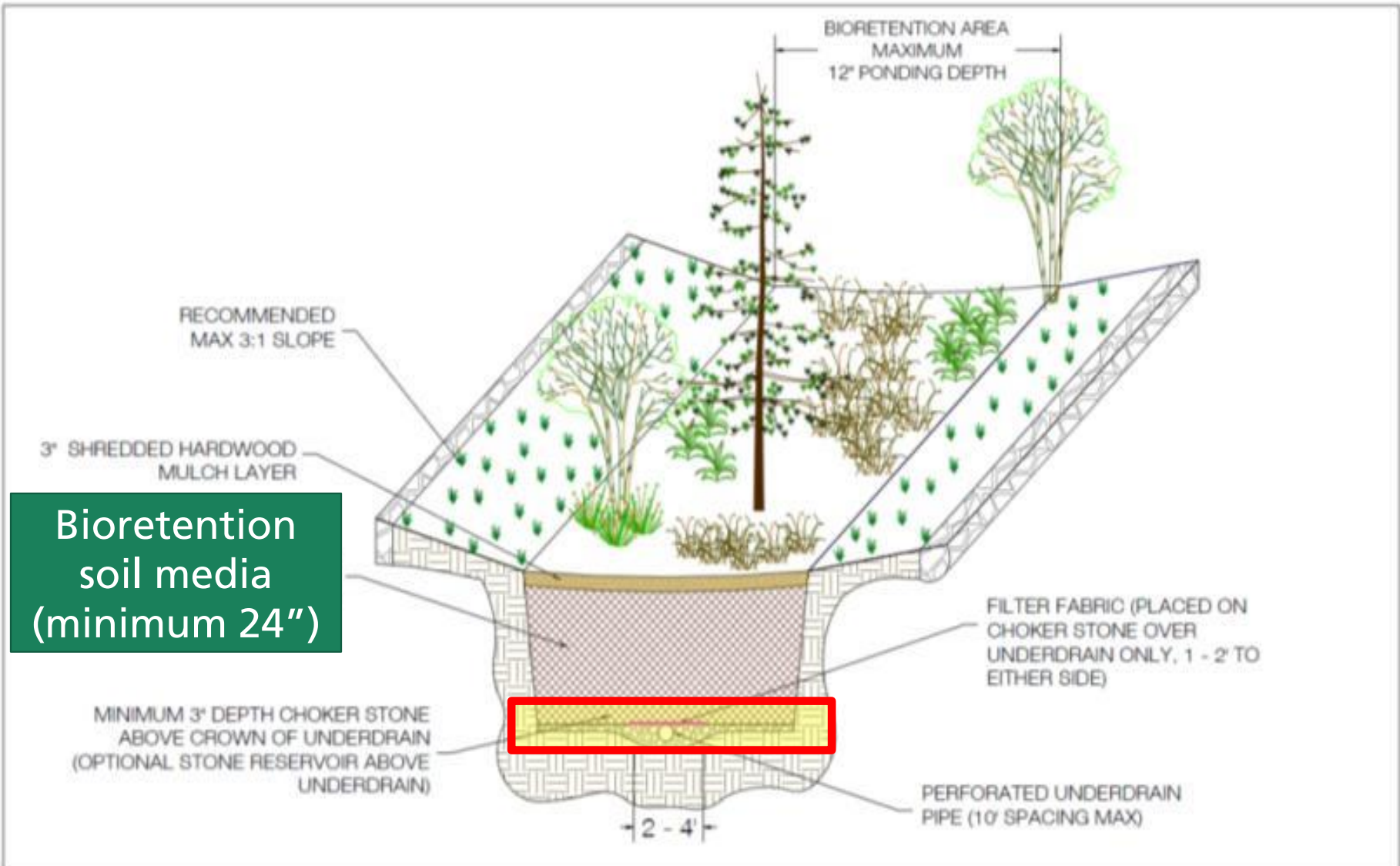
- Impervious Area Treated = Up to 5 acres & 2.5 acres of impervious



# Linear Applications: Dry Swale

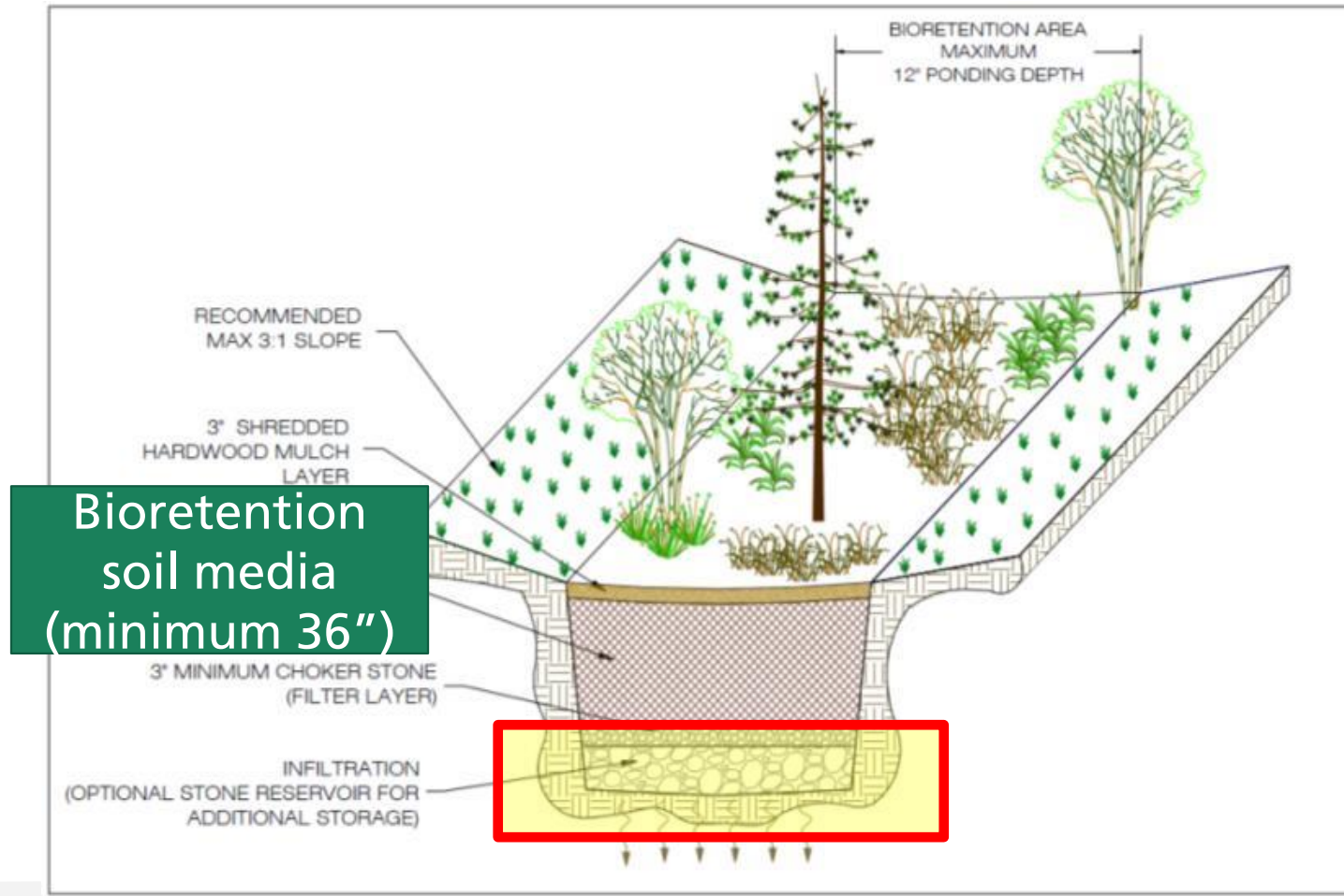


# Level 1 Bioretention: Underdrain, No infiltration sump

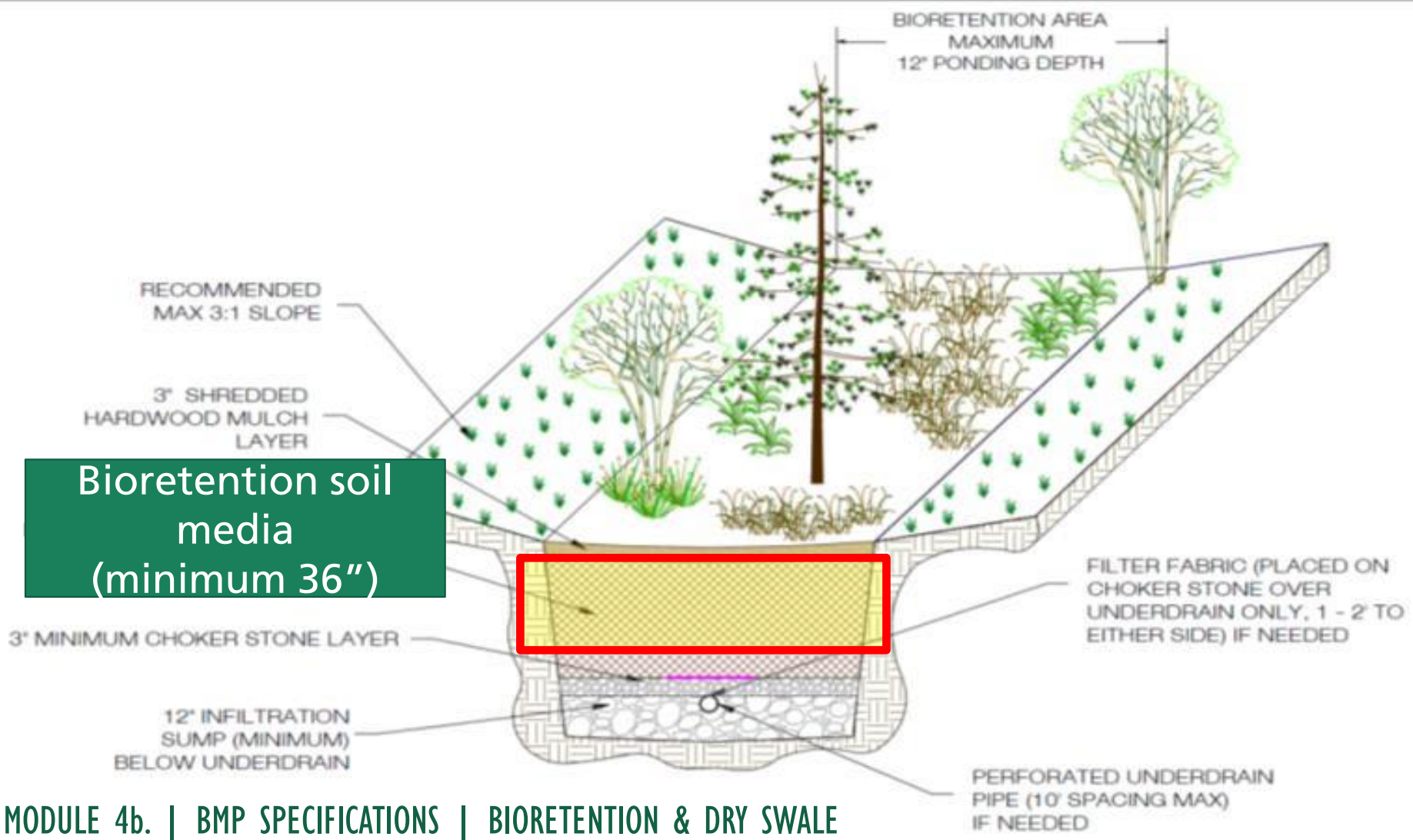




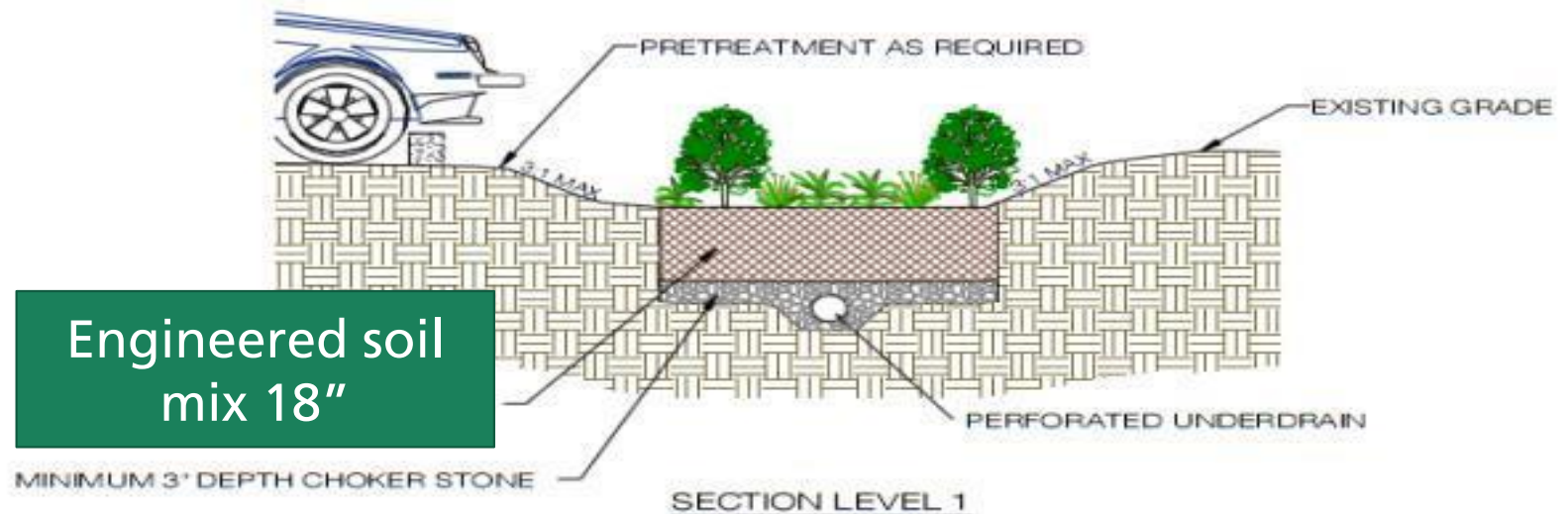
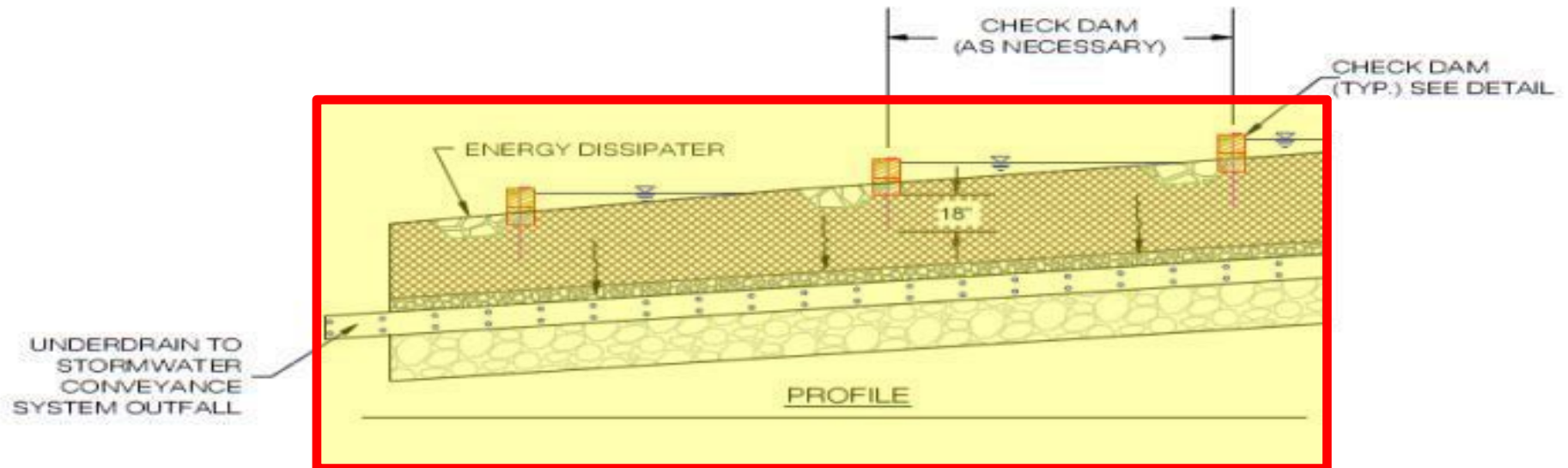
# Level 2 Bioretention: Infiltration, No underdrain



# Level 2 Bioretention: Infiltration sump as part of underdrain



# Dry Swale: On longitudinal slope with check dams (Level 1)





# Dry Swale: Longitudinal slope, check dams (Level 2)







## The BIG 5 Construction Issues

1. Stabilize drainage area
2. Check for Filter Fabric or Choker Stone
3. Verify Soil Media and Depth
4. Make Sure Water Gets In Inlets
5. Check for Level Filter Bed or Correct Slope for Dry Swales

# 1. Make Sure Drainage Area is Stabilized. Block Inlets and/or Divert Water if Necessary



## 2. Check for Choker Stone Layer Between Underdrain & Soil; Filter Fabric on Sides Only (optional)





### 3. Verify Appropriate Soil Media and Depth





## 4. Make Sure Water Gets in Inlets!



## 5. Check for Level Filter Bed



**Unlevel filter bed concentrates water in only one area ; uneven filtering**



**Level filter bed -just like a bathtub - even distribution of flow across surface**



# Longitudinal Slope for Dry Swales: Possible Use of Check dams



**Examples of longitudinal slope  
with or without check dams**



# Bioretention

## POST-Construction Inspection

- Inlets – Water Still Getting In?
- Filter Bed – standing water, erosion, sinking?
- Vegetation & surface cover – Managed and healthy? Overgrown? Bare spots? Mulch need replacing?
- Check Dams in Dry Swales – By-passing and/or erosion?
- Outlets – erosion, blockages, clogging?
- Refer to construction record drawings (as-builts)



# Standing water? Cause?



- Filter fabric, bad soil media, compaction, sediment film on top, clogged underdrain?



## Possible Corrective Actions:

- Remove surface film of sediment; till in sand
- Unclog underdrains (if clogged)
- Punch through filter fabric (if present)
- Install wick drains
- Rebuild

# What's wrong here?





## Inlet Clogged With Too Much Mulch



**If a little is  
good, more is  
not necessarily  
better!**



# Vegetation being maintained?



# Over Time, Plants Should Fill Surface Area



**Mix of Herbaceous,  
Shrubs**



**Mulch is a temporary surface  
cover**



## Dry Swale:

### POST-Construction Inspection

- Inspect check dams
  - Upstream and downstream for evidence of undercutting or erosion
  - Remove trash or blockages at weepholes
- Examine filter beds for evidence of braiding, erosion, excessive ponding or dead grass





# DESIGN SPECIFICATION

## No. 12 Filtering Practices







## Filtering Practices

- Treat stormwater runoff from small, highly impervious sites
- Specialized treatment at designated stormwater hotspots

# Types of Filters

Quite the range of system configurations and filter media:

- Surface Sand Filter
- Pocket Sand Filter
- Organic Filter
- Perimeter Sand Filter
- Underground Sand Filter
- Bioretention\*

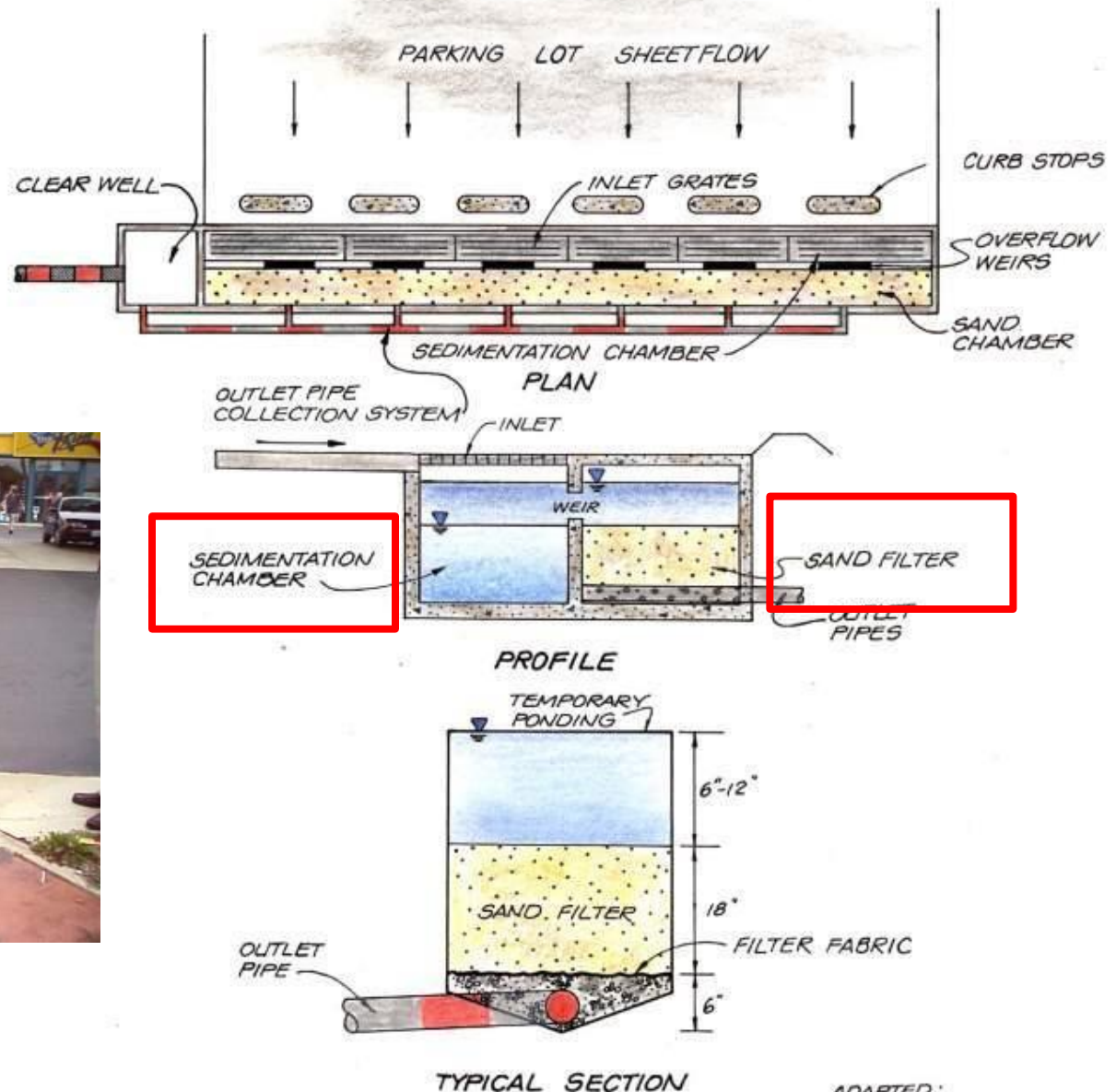


\*Bioretention is a form of a filter media, however it will not be covered in this session. Please refer to the Bioretention training module for a detailed presentation of Bioretention design.

# Types of Filters



# Perimeter or Delaware Sand Filter

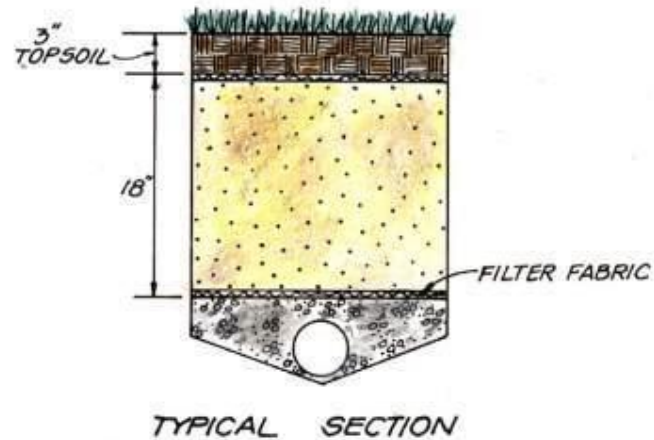
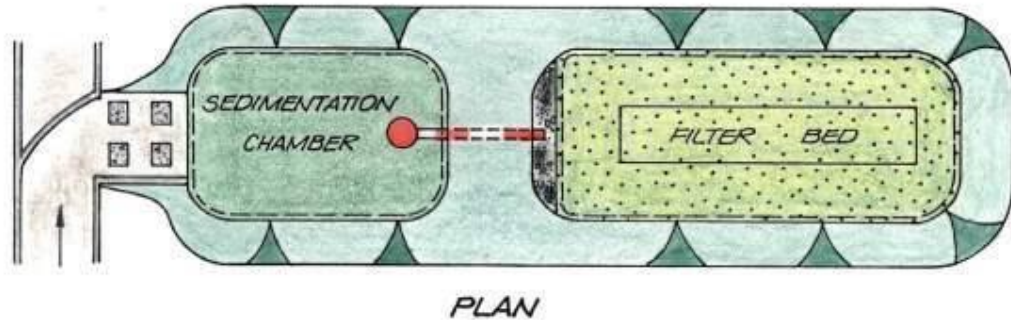


ADAPTED:  
SHAVER/BALDWIN 1991

## PERIMETER SAND FILTER

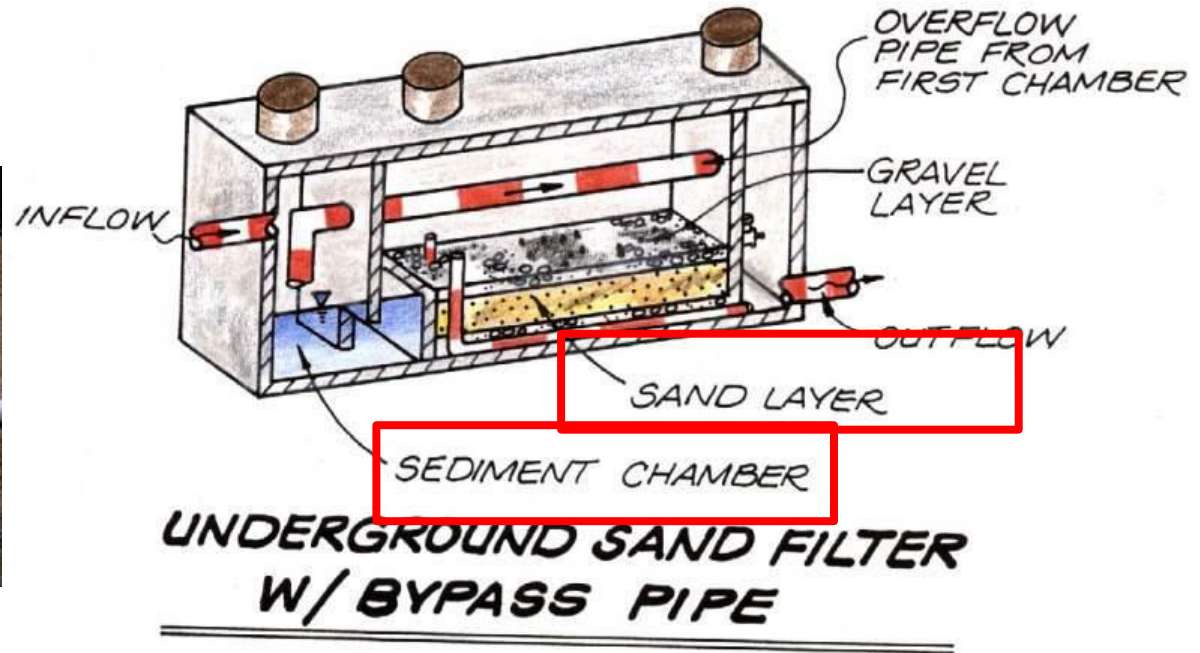


# Surface Sand Filter



**SURFACE SAND FILTER**

# Underground Sand Filter



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# Inspection: CONSTRUCTION

- Ready to Install?
- Divert Drainage Area Connection
- Grading, Installation of Structure (e.g., concrete box)





## Inspection: **CONSTRUCTION**

- Installation of underdrain & filter media
- Vegetation, stabilization
- Open drainage area connection





# Drainage Area Stabilized?



# Stabilized?





## Inspection: CONSTRUCTION

- Inlets, Weirs, Flow Splitters – Clogging, Debris?
- Filter Bed – Sediment, Trash & Debris, Clogging, Standing Water 48 hours after storm
- Sedimentation Chamber – Need Cleaning Out?
- Observation Wells & Underdrain Clean-Outs – Check for standing water, blockages
- Drainage Area – Sources of sediment, oil, etc.?

# Filter System Maintenance

- Filters are prone to clogging; frequency of maintenance is dependant on relative cleanliness (or dirtiness) of the site;





# Urban Hotspot Loading On a Media Filter:

Spec. 12 | Pg. 14-15



Will require frequent  
inspection and  
maintenance





# DESIGN SPECIFICATION

## No. 13 Constructed Wetlands & No. 11 Wet Swales



# Constructed Wetlands





## Inspection: **CONSTRUCTION**

- Check approved plan
- Conversions from E&S basins
- Planting plan





## Ready to Install?

- Drainage area stabilized?
- Secondary E&S measures in place?
- Water diverted around wetland during installation?

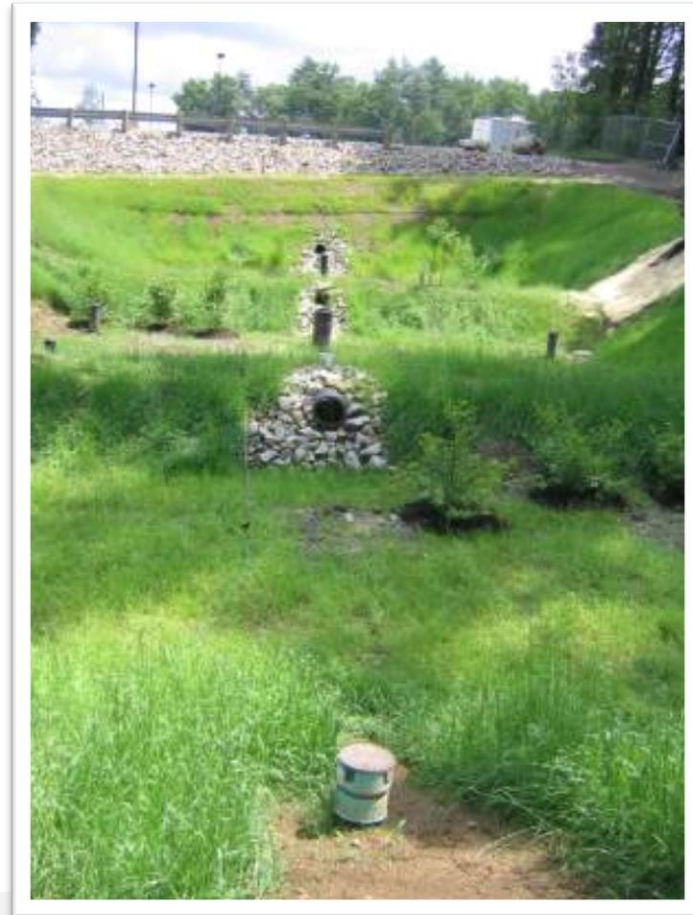
## Conversions From ESC Facilities

- Dewater
- Dredge
- Re-grade to rough design elevations



# Construction Inspection: Stage 1

- Critical points:
  - Embankments & Spillways
  - Internal berms/weirs
  - Micro-topographic features
  - Stabilize exposed areas
  - May be necessary to divert drainage area during installation





# Internal Weir To Create Cells, Long Flow Path - Elevations Are Critical





# Gabion Weirs to Lengthen Flow Path



# Multiple Cells: Forebay, Wetland Cells



Triangle Park Stormwater Treatment Wet Swale, Town of Rising Sun, MD

# Construction Inspection: Stage 2

- Critical Points

- Soil amendments in wetland areas?
- Open drainage area connection
- Check vegetation zones, types, plant stock
- Consult with contractor, design professional on plant substitutions
- Goose protection
- Check inundation zones/status





# After Planting: Protect Plants from Geese Predation



- Orange fence along perimeter
- Web of white string criss-crossing over wetland surface
- Keep in place until plants are big enough to not be enticing to geese





## Inspection: **POST**-CONSTRUCTION

- Initial establishment period
- Vegetation/invasives
- Structural elements

# Initial Establishment



- Drainage area stabilized?
- Spot reseeding
- Watering of trees
- Reinforcement plantings

## Long-Term: Invasives Are Main Issue: Check for 15% Cover of Invasives









# Wet Swales: Control of Woody Vegetation



# Structural Elements: Erosion, Clogging, Sediment Accumulation, Etc.





# DESIGN SPECIFICATION

## No. 14: Wet Pond & No. 15: Extended Detention Ponds





# Wet Ponds & ED Ponds

## Wet Pond

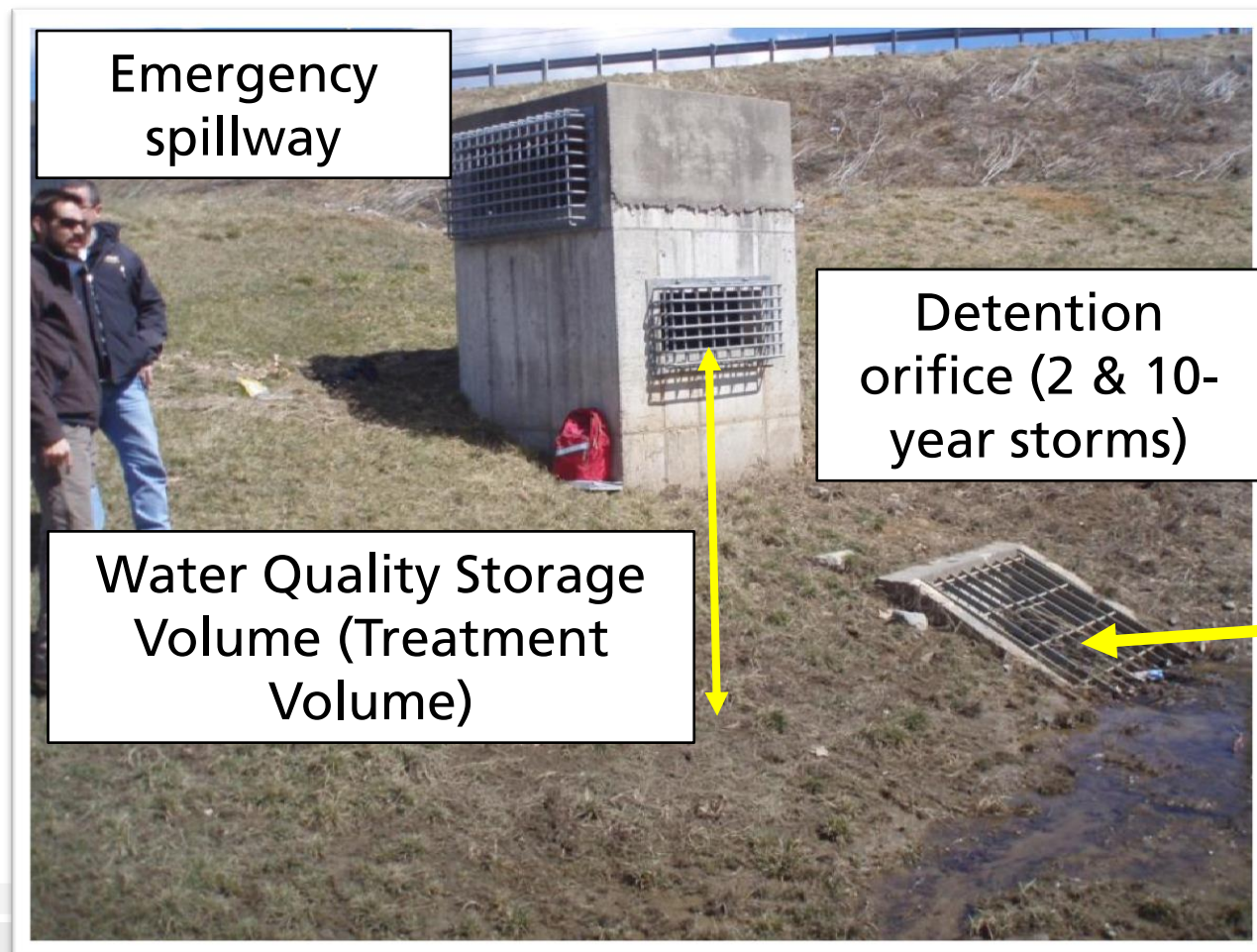
- Permanent pool
- Incoming water displaces pool water

## ED Pond

- Ponds only short time after storm
- Incoming water pools temporarily and allows settling



# ED Pond (typical)



## ED Pond (typical)



# Wet Pond (typical)





# Most ponds will do double duty as E&S basins during construction





## Inspection: **CONSTRUCTION**

- Geotechnical
- Ready to convert from E&S basin?
- Dewater & dredge
- E&S measures during conversion
- Re-grade to design
- Riser & spillway configurations
- Design depth in pools
- Landscaping & final stabilization



## Coordination with E&S

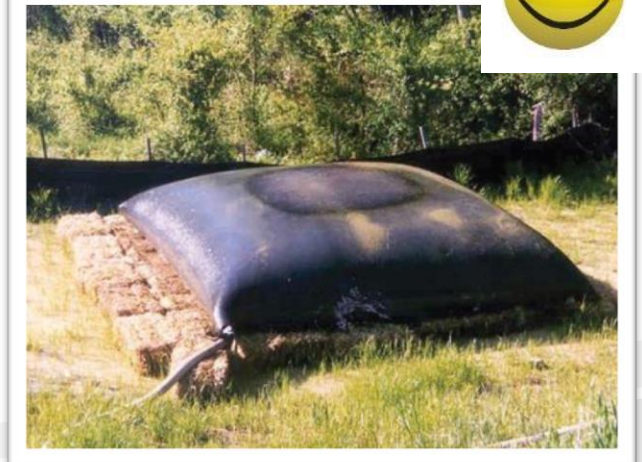




## Soils & Geotechnical

- Geotechnical tests should be conducted by operator to determine infiltration rates and other properties of soils underlying proposed pond

# Dewatering Practices During Conversion





# Inspection: **POST**-CONSTRUCTION

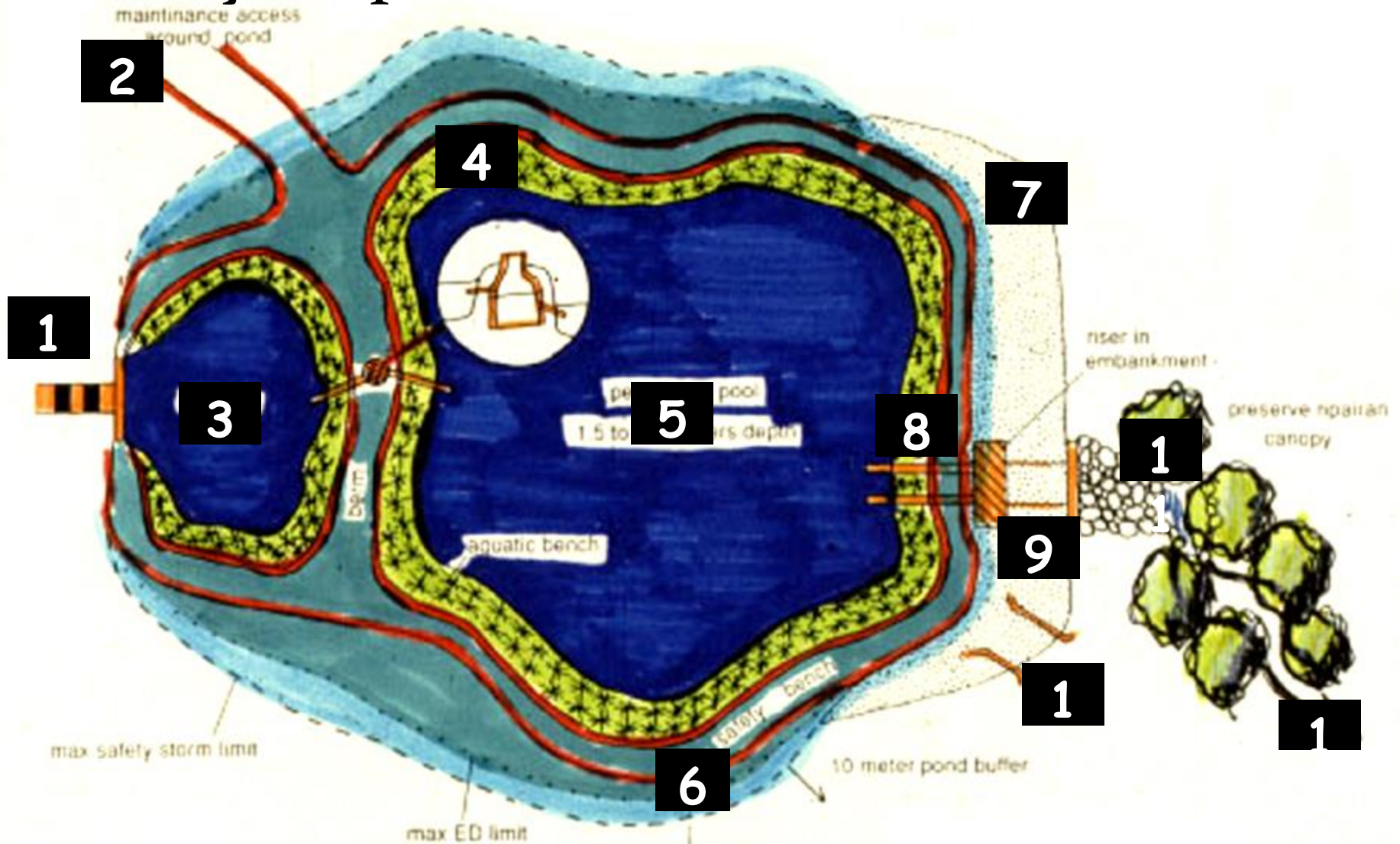




# Common Inspection Zone

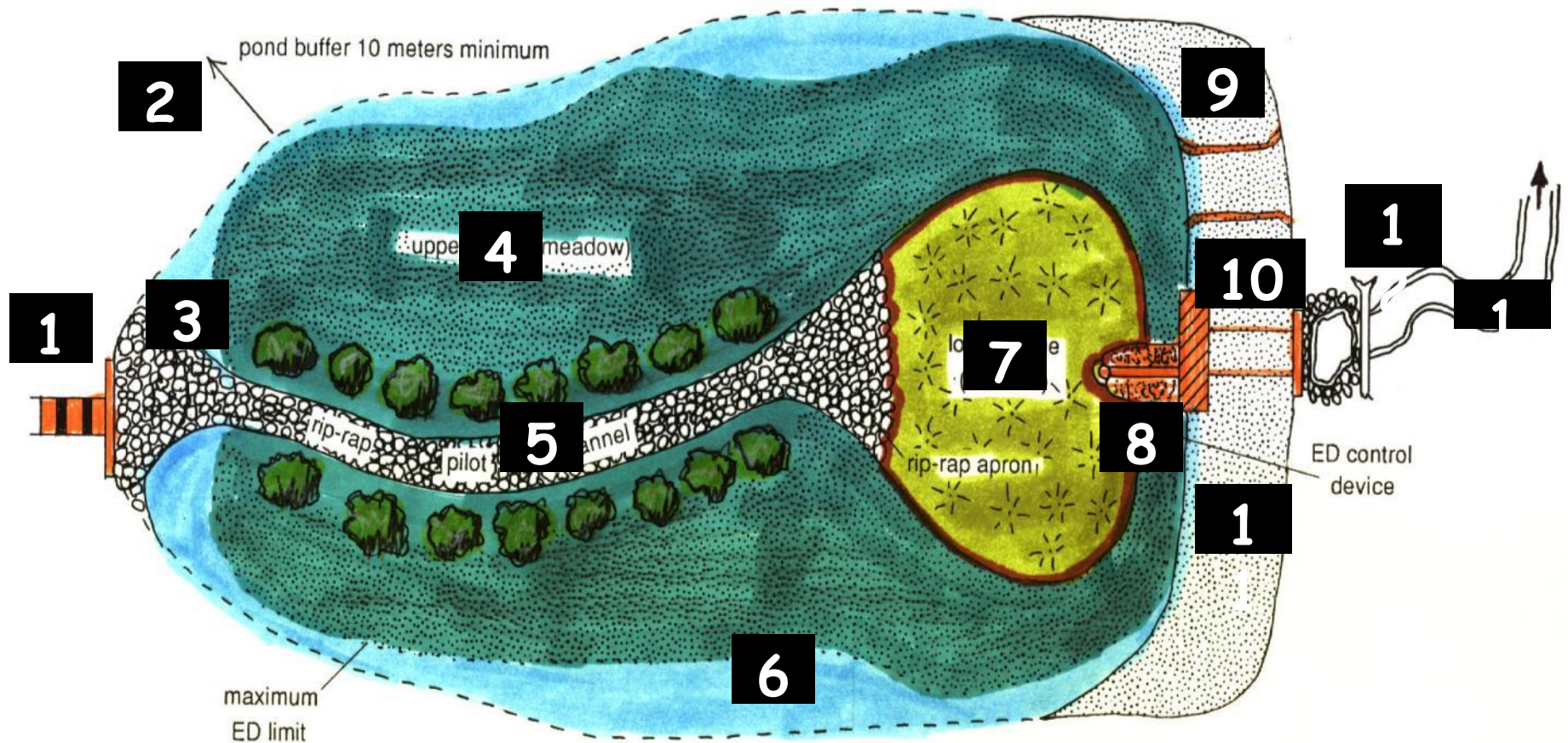
1. Inflow pipe(s)
2. Equipment access
3. Forebay
4. Pond benches
5. Pool  
elevation/capacity
6. Side-slope condition
7. Embankment integrity
8. Pool outflow  
pipe/drain
9. Barrel and riser
10. Emergency spillway
11. Outfall stabilization
12. Outflow channel  
condition

# Key Inspection Zones: Wet Pond





# Key Inspection Zones: ED Pond





# 1

## Inflow Pipe(s)

- Scour
- Metal Pipe Corrosion
- Blockage



# 2

## Equipment Access

- Easement width
- Vegetation growth in easement
- Slope
- Fences
- Locks



# 3

## Forebay

- Presence/absence
- Need for cleanout
- Trash/debris
- Conveyance to main pond



# 4

## Pond Benches

- Presence or absence
- Vegetative condition
- Trash/floatables
- Erosion





## Pool Elevation/Capacity

High pool indicates:

- Incorrect design, or
- Clogged outfall

Low pool indicates:

- Potential seepage at outfall or thru embankment
- sediment accumulation

Variable pool indicates:

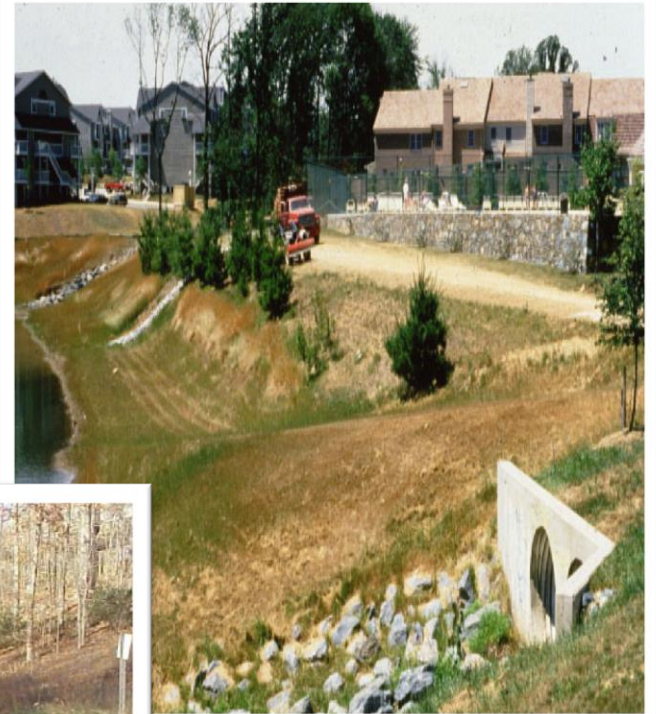
- Bad ED design



# 6

## Side-slope Condition

- Ability to mow
- Vegetative cover
- Rill erosion
- Slumping



# 7

## Embankment Integrity

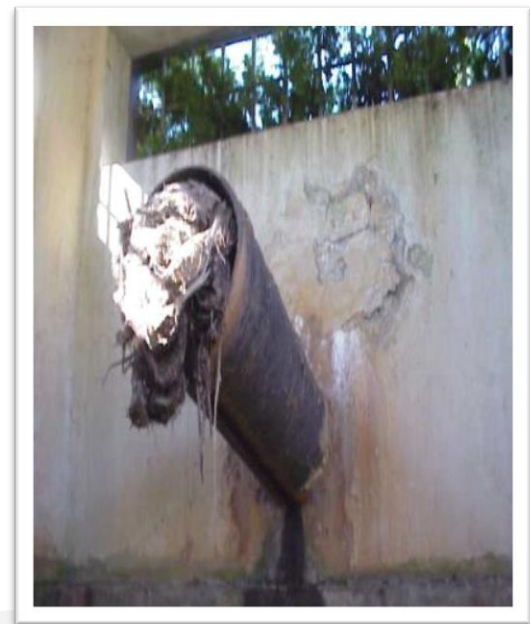
- Trees on the embankment
- Sloughing
- Burrows
- Seepage through embankment
- Moist areas on toe
- Voids/moisture around barrel





## Pool Outflow Pipe/Drain

- Make sure the “plumbing” can be accessed and is in operable condition





# 9

## Barrel and Riser

- Barrel Corrosion or joint deflection
- Seepage around barrel





Crack in Riser



Leak in Riser



Crack in Barrel



Joint with Calcification



# 10

## Emergency Spillway

- Erosion or sloughing
- Tree growth
- Blockages
- Capacity



# Outfall Stabilization

- Erosion
- Rip-rap displacement
- Blockage





# 12

## Outfall Channel Condition

- Check for pipe undercutting
- Pond slime
- Downstream Channel stability



# Other Common Problems

- Graffiti/ Vandalism
- Lock or fence problems
- Illegal dumping
- Geese
- Mosquitoes

